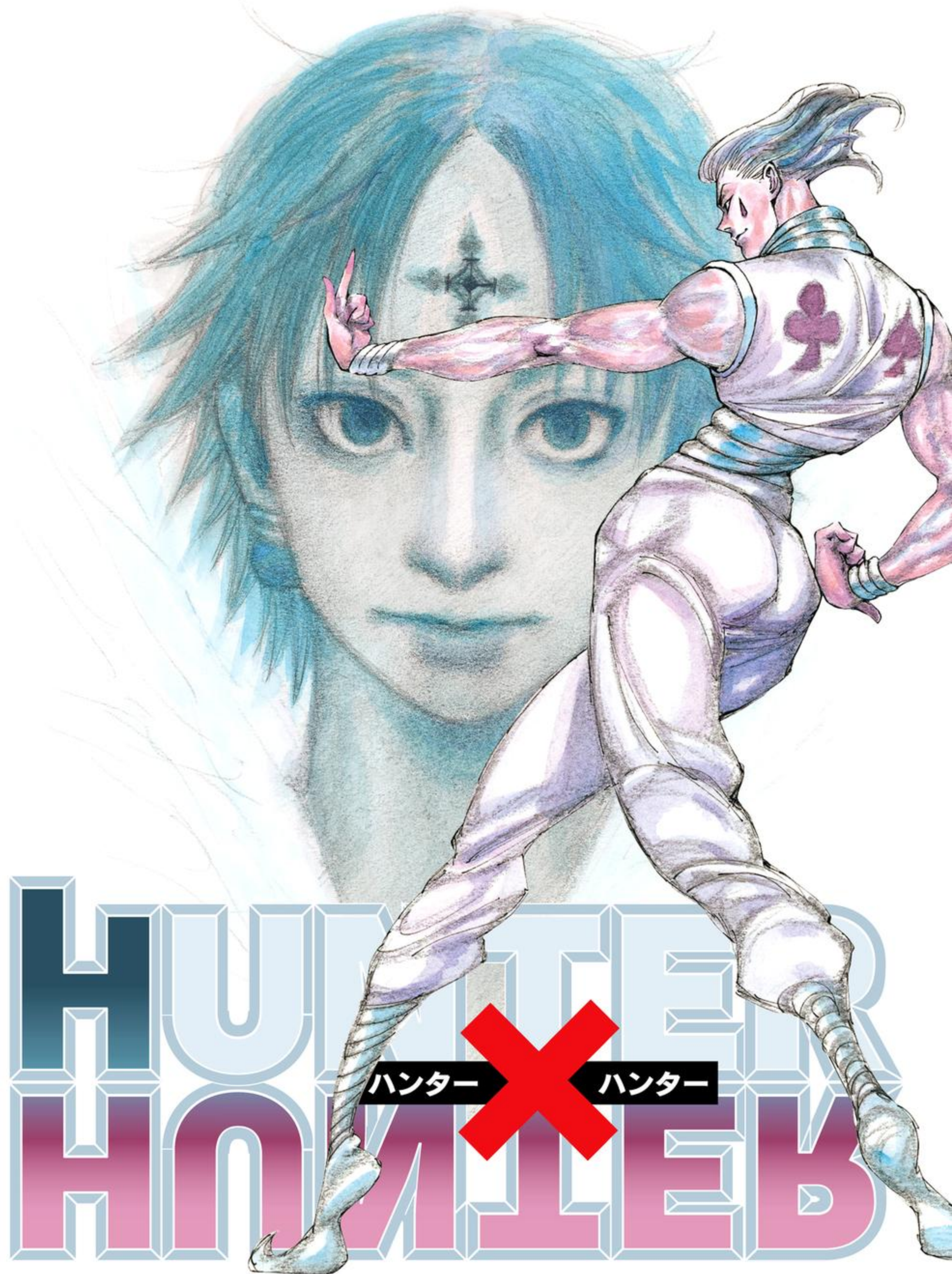
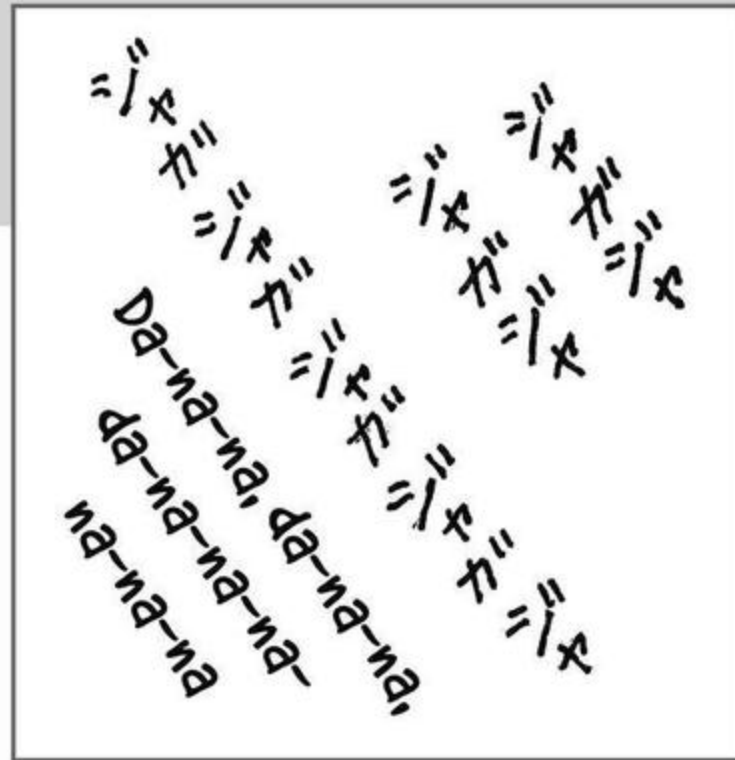




34

SHONENJUMP ADVANCED

Story & Art by
YOSHIHIRO TOGASHI



富 樫 義 博

A little late to the party... *Shin Godzilla* was awesome!!
Hooray for Japanese cinema!!

Yoshihiro Togashi



Yoshihiro Togashi's manga career began in 1986 at the age of 20, when he won the coveted Osamu Tezuka Award for new manga artists. He debuted in the Japanese **Weekly Shonen Jump** magazine in 1989 with the romantic comedy **Tende Shôwaru Cupid**. From 1990 to 1994 he wrote and drew the hit manga **YuYu Hakusho**, which was followed by the dark comedy science-fiction series **Level E**, and finally this adventure series, **Hunter x Hunter**, available from VIZ Media's SHONEN JUMP Advanced imprint. In 1999 he married the manga artist Naoko Takeuchi.

HUNTER X HUNTER Volume 34

SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED Manga Edition

STORY AND ART BY
YOSHIHIRO TOGASHI

English Adaptation & Translation/Lillian Olsen
Touch-up Art & Lettering/Mark McMurray
Design/Matt Hinrichs
Editor/Urian Brown

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Printed in the U.S.A.

Published by VIZ Media, LLC
P.O. Box 77010
San Francisco, CA 94107

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
First printing, March 2018



www.viz.com



SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED MANGA



HUNTER HUNTER

Story & Art by

Yoshihiro Togashi

Volume 34



Beyond Netero

NETERO'S SON.
PLANNING THE FORBIDDEN
JOURNEY TO THE DARK
CONTINENT.

Pariston Hill

FORMER HUNTER ASSOCIATION
VICE CHAIRMAN AND FORMERLY
ONE OF THE ZODIACS.
INTRICATELY INVOLVED IN
BEYOND'S JOURNEY PLANS.



Ging Freecss

GON'S FATHER, ONE OF THE TOP
FIVE NEN USERS IN THE WORLD.
SAILING TO THE DARK
CONTINENT WITH PARISTON.

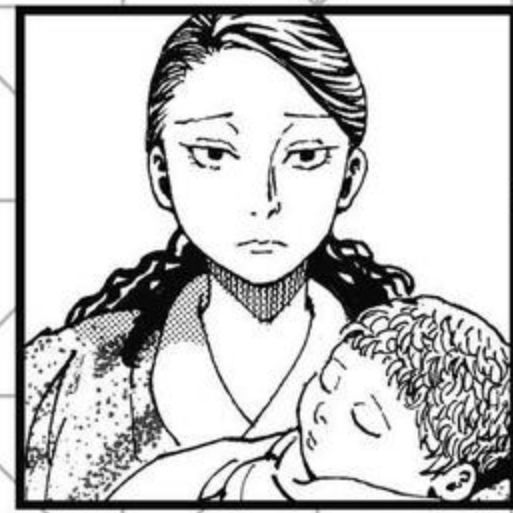
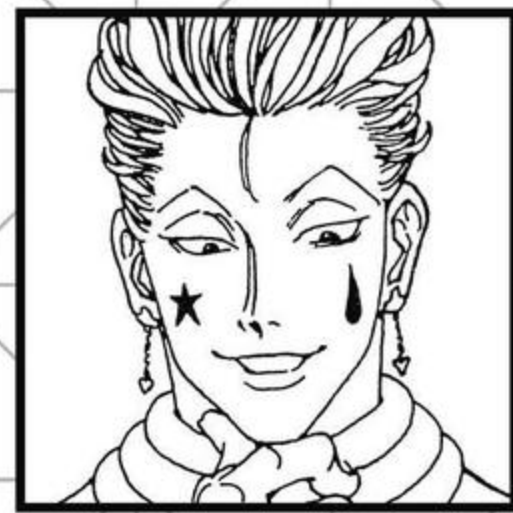


Chrollo

THE LEADER OF THE PHANTOM
TROUPE. ONCE DENIED HIS
NEN ABILITIES, HE IS NOW ABLE
TO FIGHT HISOKA.

Hisoka

SO BATTLE-OBSESSED
THAT HE TRACKED DOWN AN
EXORCIST FOR CHROLLO SO
HE COULD FIGHT HIM.



Fourteenth Prince Woble and Oito

THE FOURTEENTH PRINCE OF
KAKIN AND HER MOTHER.
KURAPIKA'S CLIENTS WHO
HIRED HIM AS A BODYGUARD.

CHARACTERS

Gon Freecss

OUR EAGER HERO.
HE BECAME A HUNTER TO
REUNITE WITH HIS FATHER.
HIS BATTLE WITH THE
CHIMERA ANTS LEFT
HIM UNABLE TO SEE
NEN ANYMORE.
CURRENTLY AT HOME.



Kurapika

GON'S FRIEND.
HIS GOAL IS TO FIND HIS
BRETHREN'S EYES SCATTERED
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.
FOURTEENTH PRINCE
WOBLE'S BODYGUARD.



Leorio Paradiknight

GON'S FRIEND AND A PRE-MED
HUNTER. JOINED THE ZODIACS,
AND THE SHIP'S MEDICAL TEAM.

The Zodiacs



CLUCK
(BIRD)



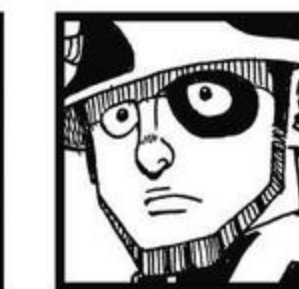
GINTA
(RAM)



GEL
(SNAKE)



PYON
(RABBIT)



MIZAISTOM
(COW)



SATCHO
(HORSE)



CHEADLE
(DOG)



KANZAI
(TIGER)



BOTOBAI
(DRAGON)



SAIYU
(MONKEY)

The Story Thus Far

GON DREAMS OF BEING A HUNTER LIKE THE FATHER HE HARDLY REMEMBERS, THE GREAT GING FREECSS.

GON REUNITES WITH GING'S OLD FRIEND KITE AND ENCOUNTERS THE CHIMERA ANTS, WHICH CAME FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD. THE HUNTER ASSOCIATION SENDS OUR HEROES TO STORM THE PALACE IN E. GORTEAU TO DEFEAT THE ANTS. MANKIND IS VICTORIOUS, BUT AT THE COST OF HUNTER ASSOCIATION CHAIRMAN NETERO'S LIFE. AN ELECTION IS HELD TO PICK THE NEXT CHAIRMAN, AND CHEADLE OF THE ZODIACS IS PICKED. GON, CRITICALLY WOUNDED, IS HEALED BY ALLUKA, KILLUA'S SISTER.

NETERO'S SON, BEYOND, ANNOUNCES A VOYAGE TO THE DARK CONTINENT TO THE ENTIRE WORLD, WHICH WAS SUPPOSED TO BE TABOO. WHILE EVERYONE PREPARES FOR THE JOURNEY, THE BATTLE FOR THE THRONE OF THE KAKIN KINGDOM IS SET TO TAKE PLACE DURING THE VOYAGE...



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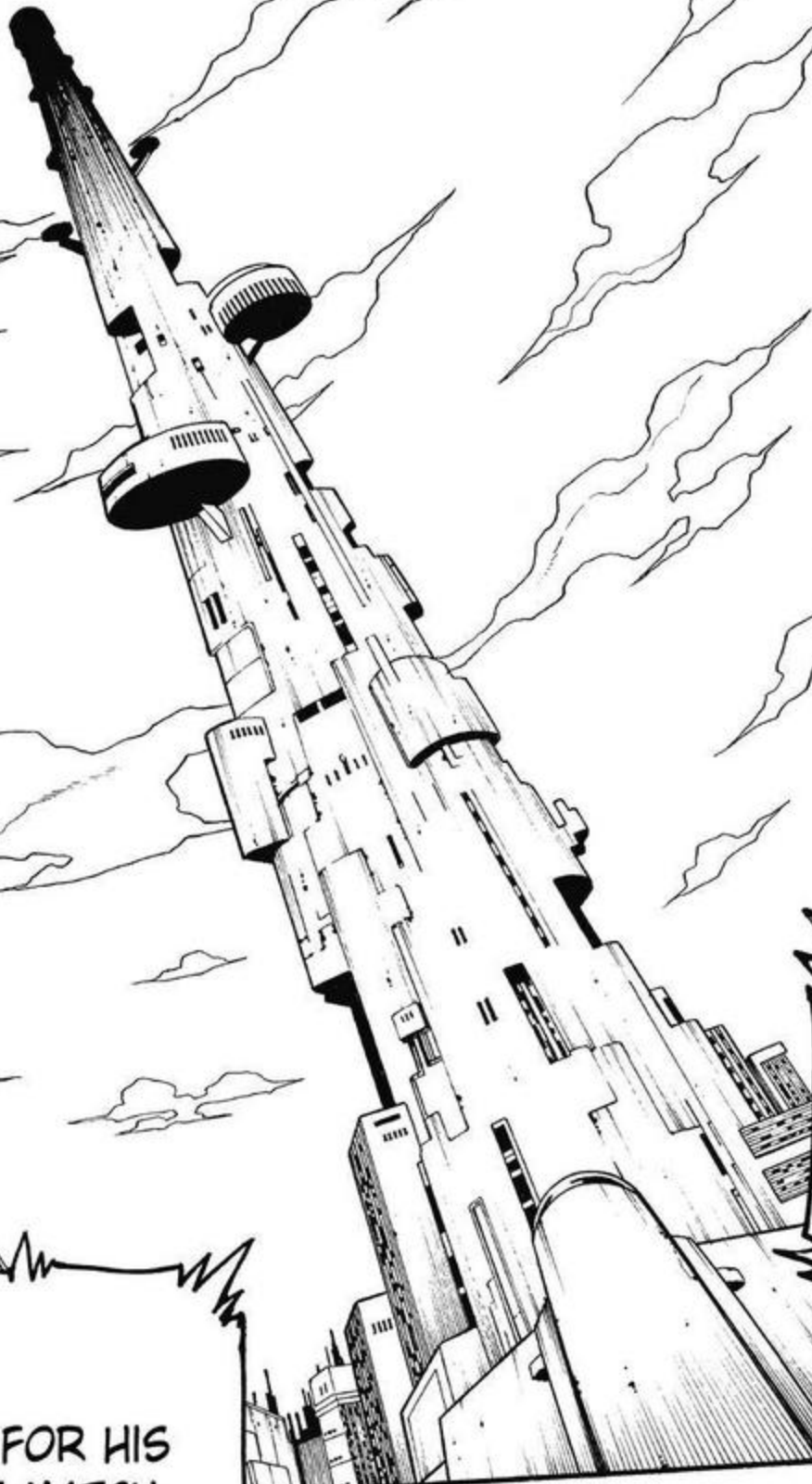
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Chapter 351: Battle to the Death



HERE FOR HIS
FIRST MATCH
AS FLOOR
MASTER!!
HIS NAME IS...

LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN!!!
THE OPPONENT
THE ELLUSIVE
"GRIM REAPER"
HAS PICKED
FOR THIS
FLOOR MASTER
BATTLE....!!

RAAH

RAAH

RAAH

HISOKA-
A-A-AH
MO-O-O-O-
O-RRRRO-
O-O-O-OW
!!!

VS.!

CHROLLO-
O-O-OH
LUCI-III-
FERRRRR
!!!







ONLY ONE WILL
SURVIVE!!
VICTORY IS
WON THROUGH
THE OTHER'S
DEATH!!

WOW!!
FLOOR MASTER
CHROLLO PROPOSES
A BATTLE TO THE
DEATH!!
AND HISOKA
CONSENTS!!
MORTAL COMBAT
IT IS!!



FOR YOUR
PRIDE AND
HONOR...

THE
USE OF
WEAPONS
IS
ALLOWED.



FIGHT!

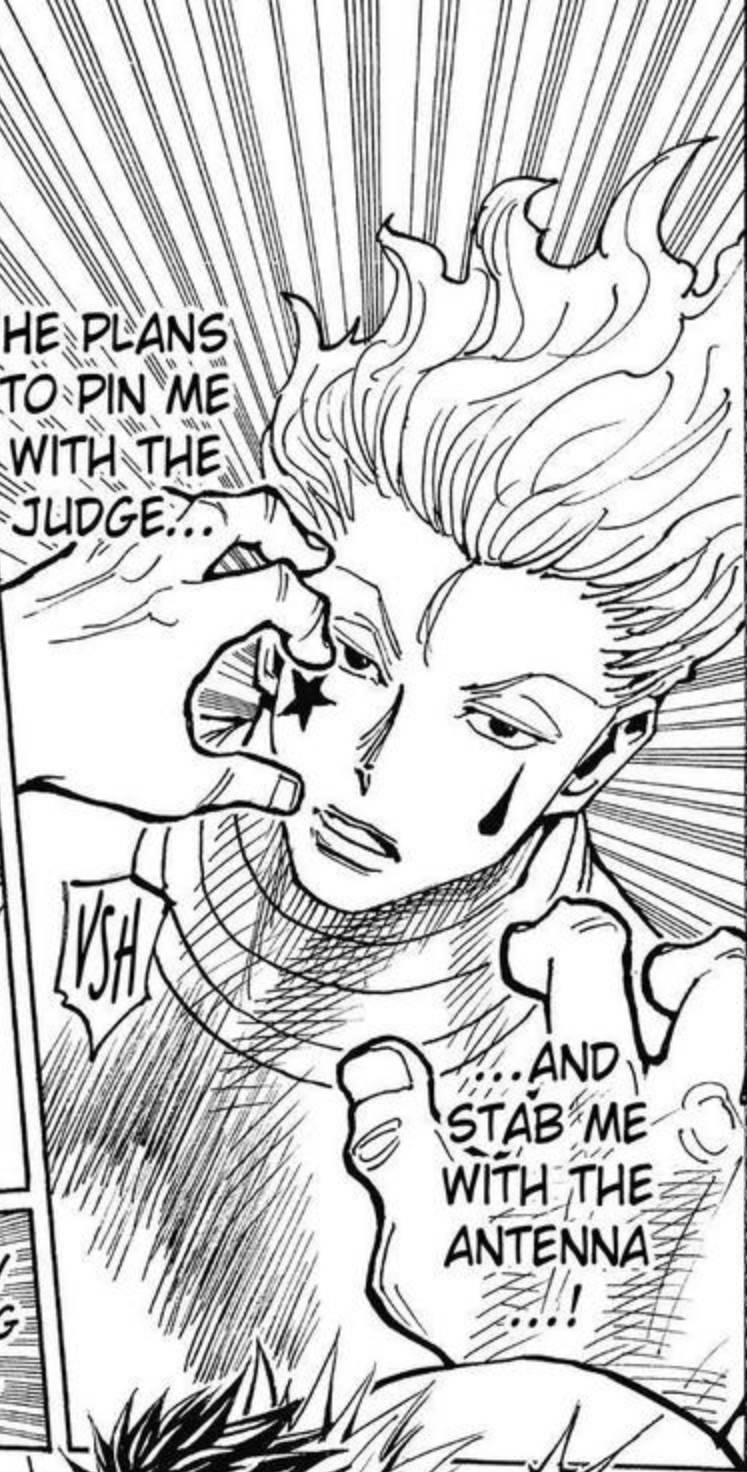
LET'S...







HE PLANS
TO PIN ME
WITH THE
JUDGE...



...AND
STAB ME
WITH THE
ANTENNA
...!!

HERE HE
COMES!

MY
LEG
...

BASH



TSK...
A
FEINT
...!!



ADVANTAGE
G A
OR IS
GAME
YOUR
S ARE
ED.

ONLY HAS
E PHONE,
O CAN HE
NIPULATE
PERSON?
OR...

ANCE?
BE
TO
ANDS
A
T!!

L OUT
ANTENNA
ALL THE
E, AND
CONTROL
BABLY
RE

...TWO AT ONCE?
IT COULD BE
POSSIBLE TO
SEND COMMANDS
THROUGH A
GROUP TEXT!!

PULL OUT
THE ANTENNA
OR KILL THE
JUDGE, AND
THE CONTROL
PROBABLY
ENDS...

BUT IF HE
CAN ONLY
CONTROL
ONE PERSON,
THAT'S WHAT
CHROLLO'S
WAITING
FOR...!

STOMP!!!
STOMP!!!
STOMP!!!
STOMP!!!
**A SAVAGE
STOMPING
!!!**





IT'S THE BEST
STRATEGY,
WHETHER HE
CAN CONTROL
ONE OR
MULTIPLE
TARGETS.

WAITING
FOR HIS
OPPORTUNITY
WITH THE
JUDGE AS HIS
SHIELD...

THUD

FFT

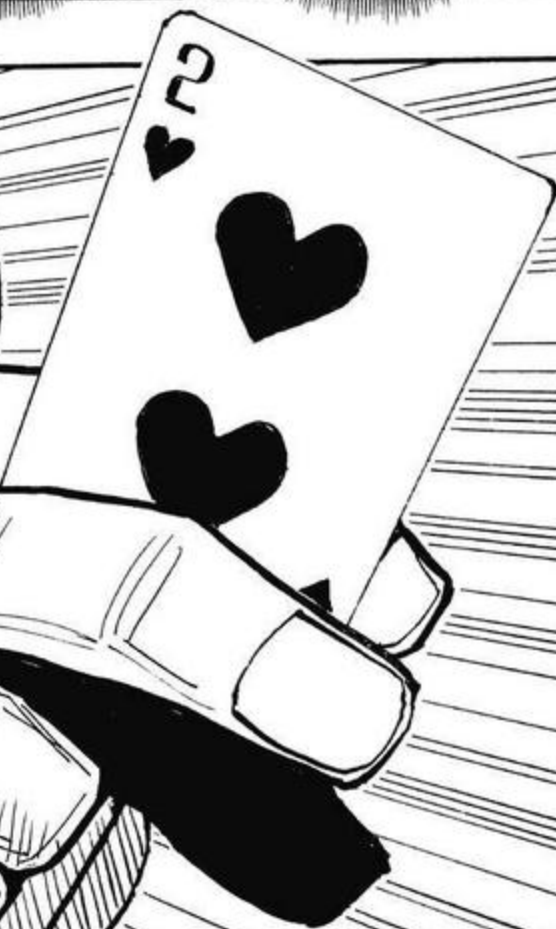


HE'S BASICALLY
DECLARING A
DRAWN-OUT
BATTLE!!

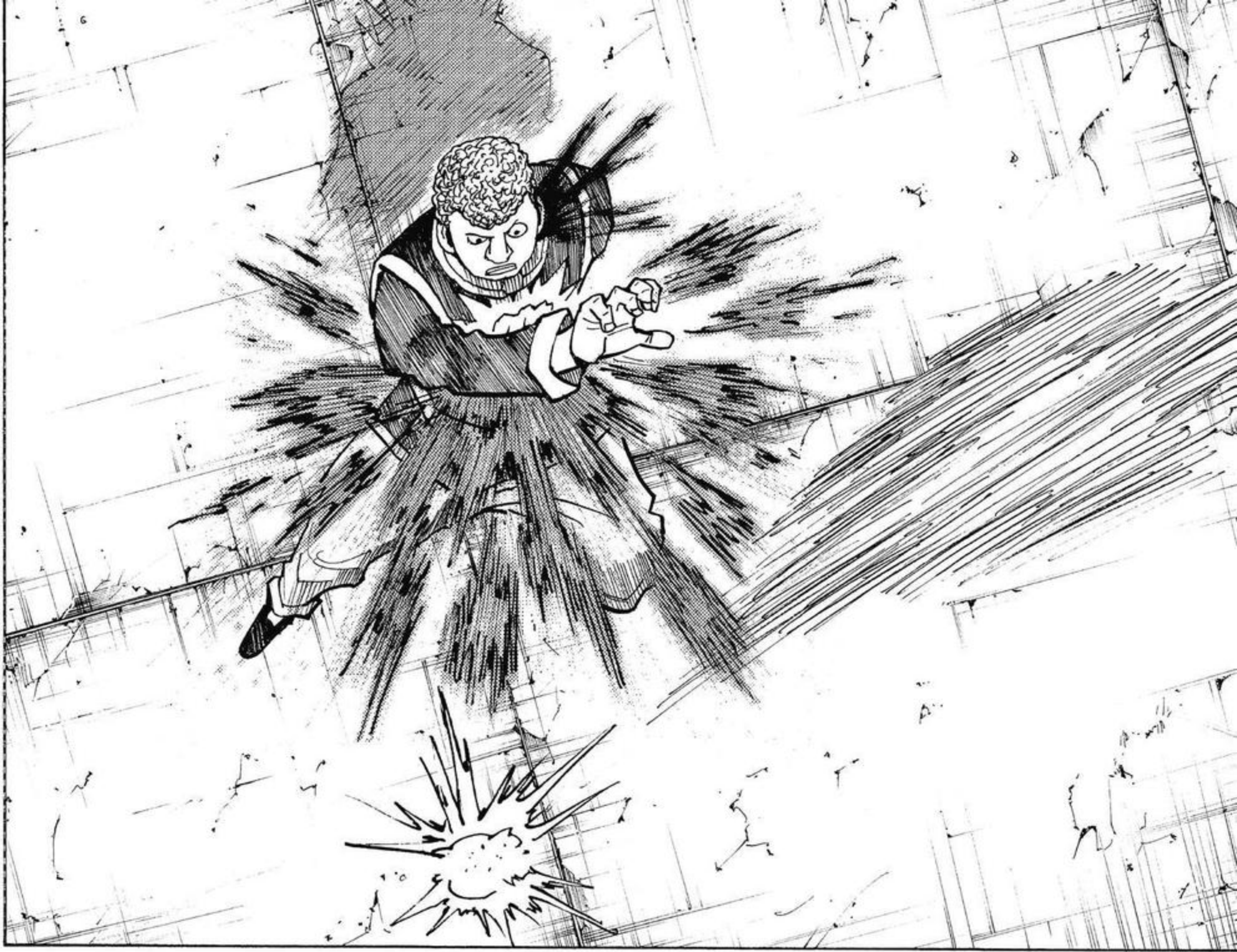
...TO WEAR
ME OUT!!

HE SHOWED
ME HE COULD
INSTA-KILL
ON PURPOSE
TO MAKE
ME ALWAYS
VIGILANT
OF THE
ANTENNA...

I'M SO
HAPPY,
CHROLLO...









BUT...

...WHERE'S
THE BOOK
...?!

THE SUN
AND MOON:
"PAIRED
DESTRUCTION."

SP
LAT

PS
T
PS
T
PS
T
PS
T

FOR
REAL
?!

HE'S
DEAD
...?

AS YOU
CAN SEE,
IT USES
BOTH
HANDS.

THE MARK OF
THE SUN IS
IMPRESSED
WITH THE LEFT
HAND, AND THE
MOON WITH
THE RIGHT.

THE MARKS
THEMSELVES CAN BE
MADE IN AN INSTANT,
BUT FOR MAXIMUM
EFFECT, I NEED TO
TOUCH THE TARGET
FOR THREE TO FIVE
SECONDS.

WHEN THE
MARKS TOUCH
EACH OTHER,
THEY EXPLODE...
I JUST MARKED
THE JUDGE'S
LEFT HAND AND
BACK.

...BUT A
COMPLETE
BOMB CAN
BLOW NEARBY
PEOPLE TO
SMITHEREENS.

AN INSTANT
MARK WILL
RESULT IN
THAT SMALL
BLAST...

...IN
METEOR
CITY.

I GAINED
THIS ABILITY
BACK
HOME...



DOUBLE
FACE:
"BOOKMARK
THEME."

THINK
CAREFULLY
BEFORE YOU
CALL AFTER
SEEING MY
HAND.

LIKE I JUST
DEMONSTRATED,
BY USING A
BOOKMARK, I CAN
MAINTAIN THAT
PAGE'S ABILITY
EVEN AFTER
CLOSING THE
BOOK.

I CAN USE IT
CONCURRENTLY
WITH AN ABILITY
ON ANOTHER
PAGE.

A BATTLE IS
A DANCE...!
WE MUST MOVE
TO EACH
OTHER'S
BEAT...

AS LONG AS
YOU CAN FIGHT
COMFORTABLY.





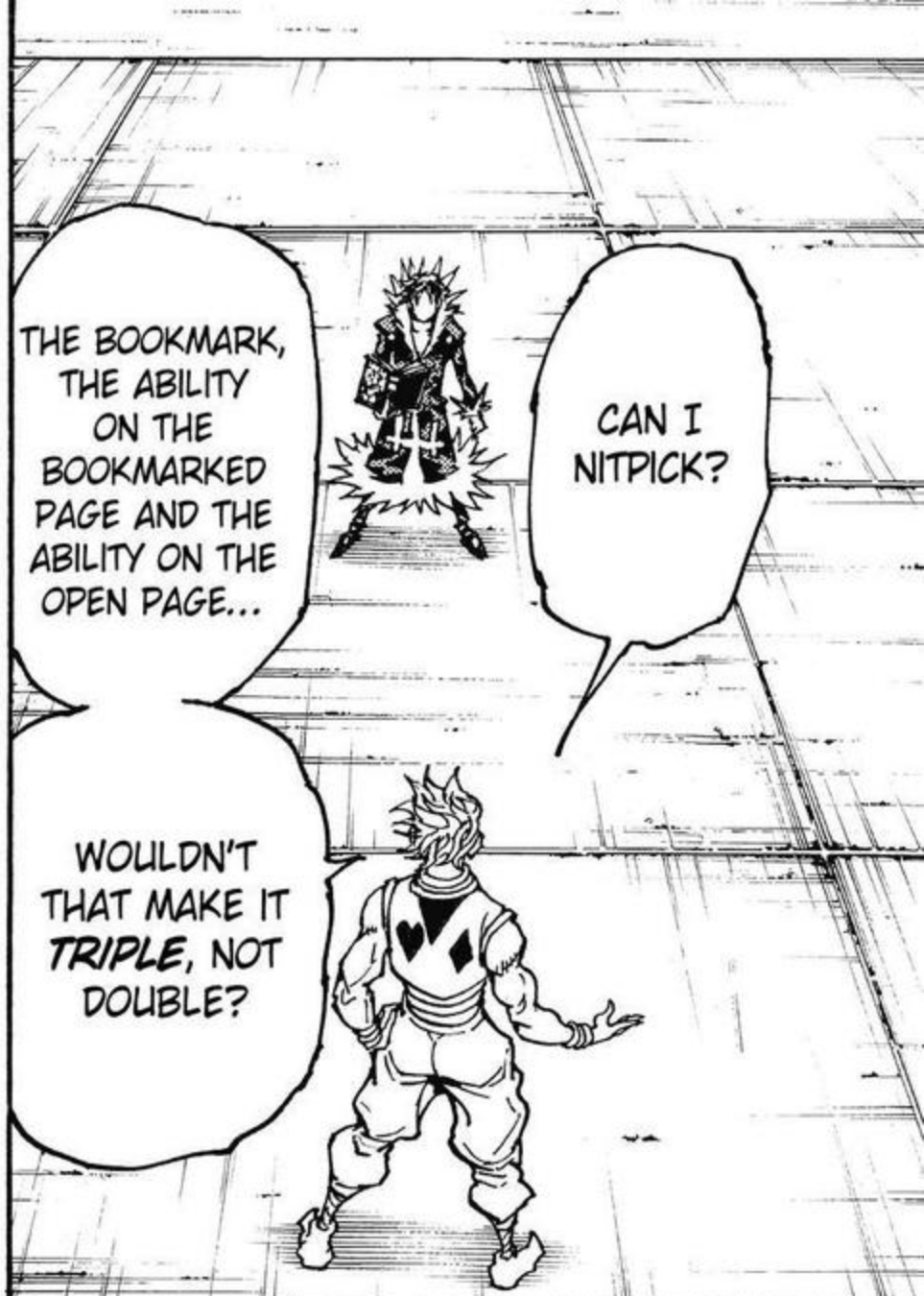
THE BOOKMARK
COMES WITH
THE BOOK.
IT'S MY *OWN*
ABILITY AND
NOT STOLEN.

IN THAT CASE,
THE BOOK
ITSELF WOULD
MAKE IT
QUADRUPLE.



I ONLY
HAVE ONE
BOOKMARK,
BY THE WAY.

SO IT'S
BASICALLY AN
ABILITY TO USE
TWO STOLEN
ABILITIES AT
ONCE.



THE BOOKMARK,
THE ABILITY
ON THE
BOOKMARKED
PAGE AND THE
ABILITY ON THE
OPEN PAGE...

CAN I
NITPICK?

WOULDN'T
THAT MAKE IT
TRIPLE, NOT
DOUBLE?



BUT THE *TRUE*
ADVANTAGE OF
THE BOOKMARK
IS NOT HAVING
TO HOLD THE
BOOK.

BEING ABLE
TO MAKE A
COMBO OF TWO
ABILITIES IS
POWERFUL...



NOW I HAVE
MORE ANNOYING
CONDITIONS TO
DEAL WITH...

BUT I FIND
THAT MY
COMBAT
EFFICIENCY
HAS *VASTLY*
IMPROVED.

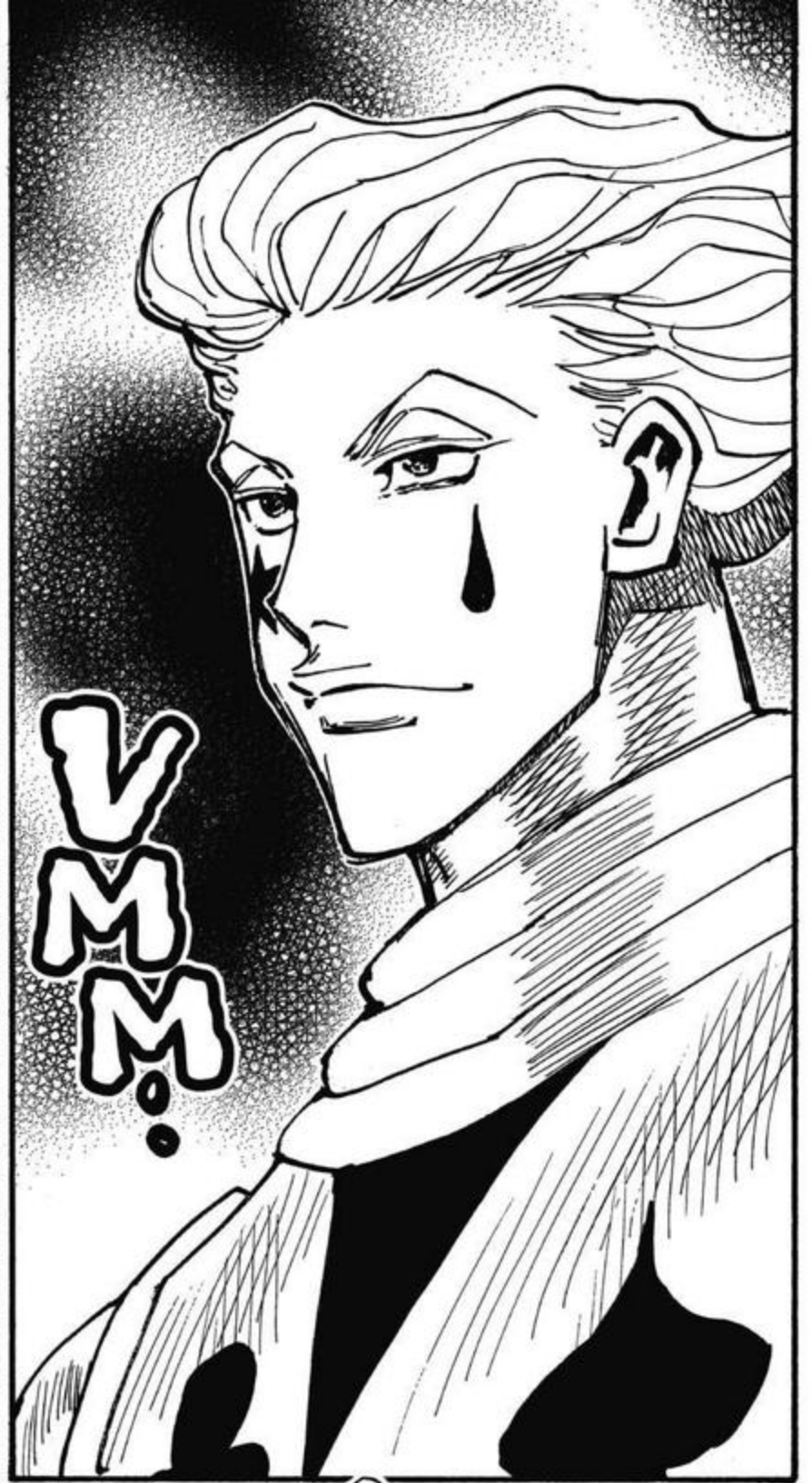
BUT WHEN I
STOLE AN ABILITY
THAT REQUIRED
BOTH HANDS,
I WAS FORCED
TO MAKE SOME
ADJUSTMENTS.

SKILL HUNTER
REQUIRED ME TO
HOLD THE BOOK
WITH MY RIGHT
HAND WHEN I
CONCEIVED IT...



Уйска
Мокроу







...I CAN
ACCRUE MORE
ABILITIES AS I
NEED THEM.

IN
ADDITION...



...OR PICK
THEIR BATTLES
CAREFULLY
AND FIGHT AS
A TEAM, FOR
EXAMPLE.

THEY
MAY KEEP
THEIR
ABILITIES
SECRET...

PEOPLE
COMPENSATE
BY GETTING
CREATIVE.



...CAN
BE MET
...!

AND THEN
I WAIT
UNTIL THE
CONDITIONS
FOR A SURE
VICTORY...



BACK TO
ABILITIES.

ORDER
STAMP:
"PROOF OF
HUMANITY."

MY GREATEST
PLEASURE
COMES WHEN
SUCH PEOPLE
CRUMPLE
TO THEIR
KNEES...

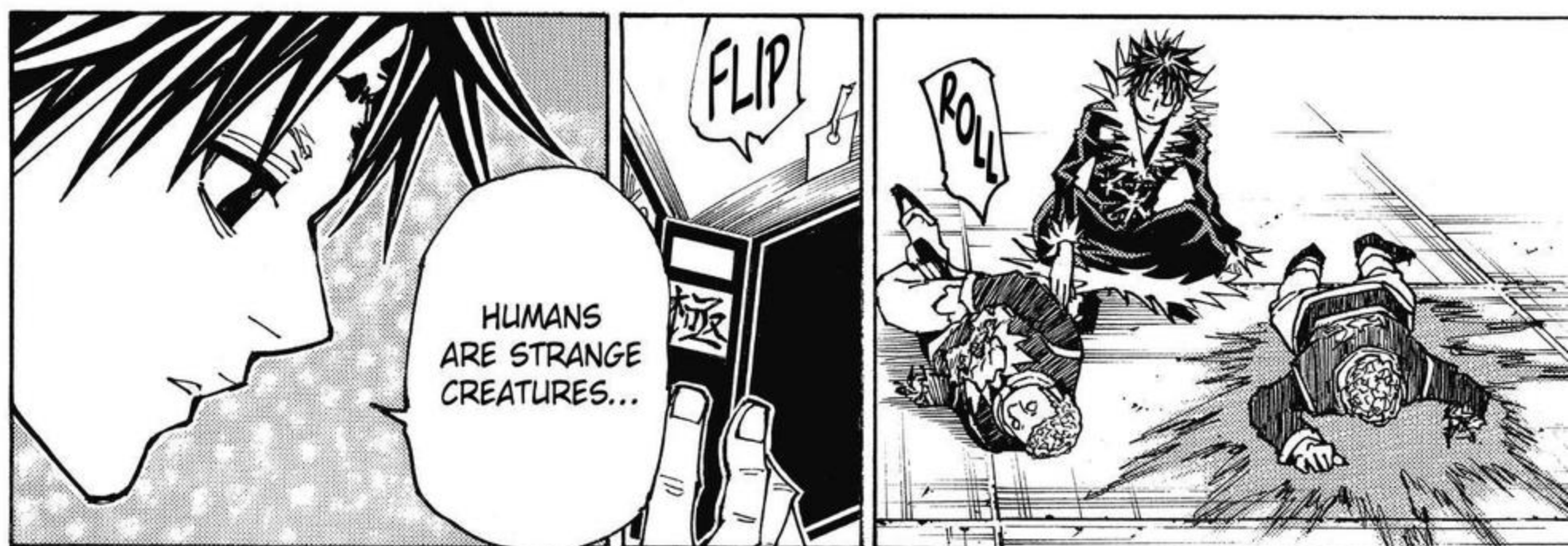
...AND I
LOOK DOWN
UPON THEIR
DISBELIEVING
FACES AS
THEIR PLANS
FAIL.
♥

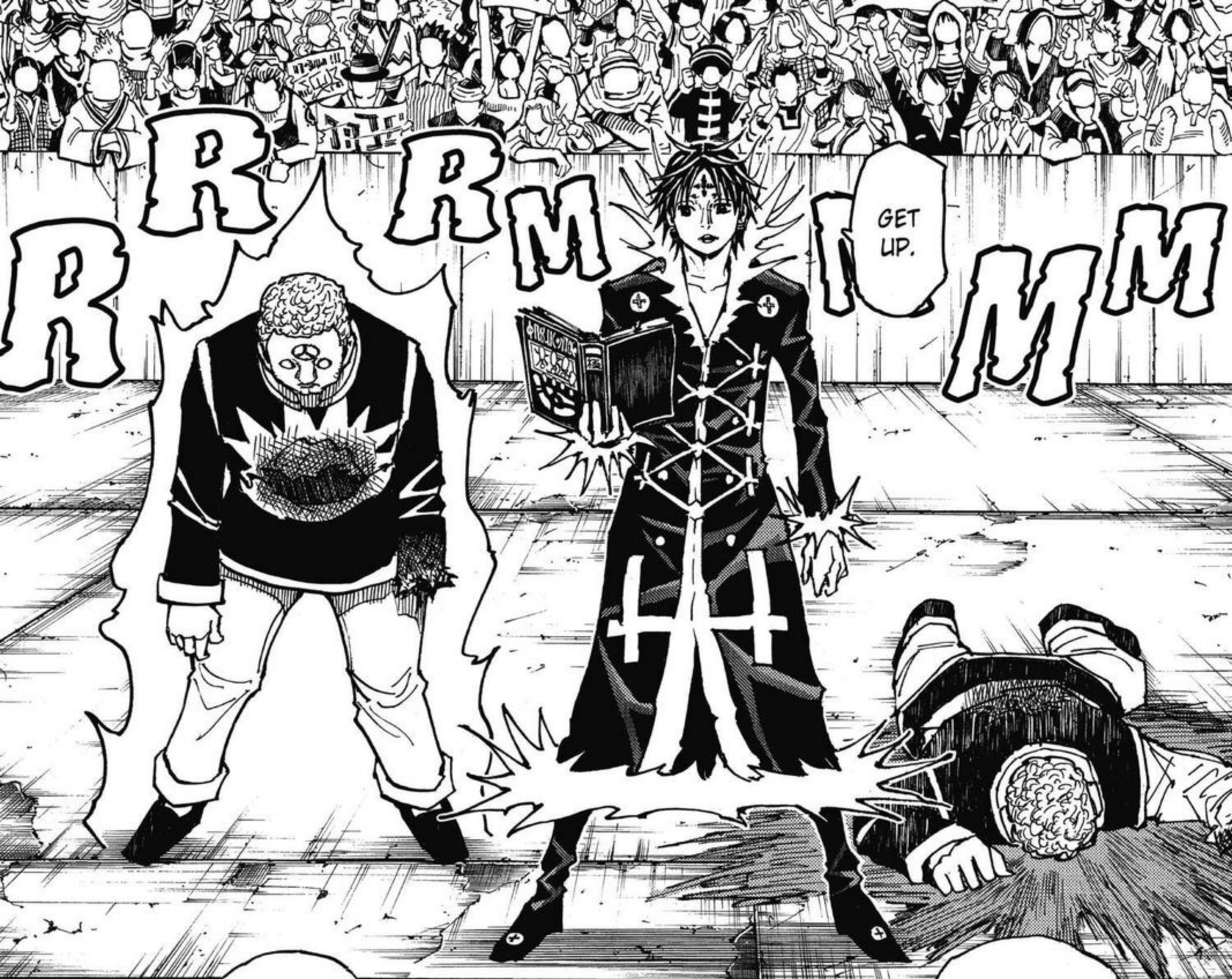
THAT'S
PRETTY
STANDARD.
♣



UUM







...IS WHETHER
THE HEAD IS
CONNECTED TO
THE TORSO.

FOR THE
FORMER OWNER,
THE DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN A
PUPPET AND
ONE THAT HAS
CEASED TO BE
ONE...

SHFISH

BREAK
HISOKA!



...IT REFLECTS ITS ORIGINAL PERSONALITY.

IF YOU ORDER A PUPPET CREATED BY COPYING A HUMAN TO KILL SOMEONE...

BUT CHANGE THE COMMAND TO "BREAK"...

IN THE WORST CASES, SOME PUPPETS OUTRIGHT IGNORE THE ORDER.

IT MAY FOCUS ON INEFFICIENT METHODS OR ASSUME THE DEED IS DONE BEFORE THE TARGET IS TRULY DEAD...

...AND THEY ALL GET TO WORK ON SEVERING THE HEAD.



HOW IT ACCEPTS COMMANDS DEPENDS ON THE PUPPET TOO.



THAT'S THE TRUE PLEASURE OF A SKILL HUNTER.

MAKING THE ABILITY YOURS WHILE EXPLORING THE DARKNESS WITHIN THE SOUL OF THE ORIGINAL OWNER...



KRAK



GRAB

GASP

SEVER THE
HEAD AND
THE PUPPET
STOPS—
THE STAMP
DISAPPEARS.

COR-
RECT.

MURMUR

WHEN THE COPY
VANISHES, YOU
MAY CONCLUDE
THAT GALLERY
FAKE HAS BEEN
DEACTIVATED.

BUT I HAVEN'T
DEACTIVATED
GALLERY FAKE,
SO THE PUPPET
REMAINS.

AND
THE LAST
ONE?

...

F S S H

F S S H

TMP

FLIP



THE ABILITY REMAINS IN EFFECT SO LONG AS I HOLD THE BOOK OPEN, EVEN IF I REMOVE THE BOOKMARK.

...I CAN USE MY LEFT HAND WHILE HOLDING THE BOOK, BUT I USE THE BOOKMARK WHEN I WANT TO USE THE RIGHT.

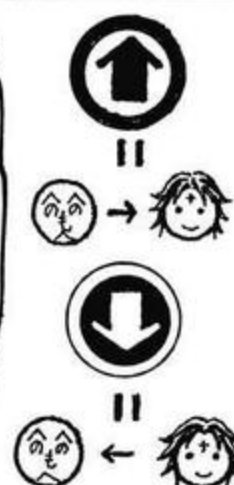
THIS...



ONLY THE APPEARANCE CHANGES—THE PERSONA DOES NOT SWITCH.

TOUCH WITH **BOTH** HANDS, AND WE INSTANTLY SWITCH FORMS.

TOUCH WITH MY RIGHT HAND, AND THE TARGET TAKES MY FORM. TOUCH WITH MY LEFT HAND, AND I TAKE ON THE FORM OF THE TARGET.



CONVERT HANDS: "TRANSFER STUDENT."



I'M THE ONE WITH THE ARROWS ON MY PALMS.

IT'LL BE EASY TO FIGURE OUT WHICH IS REAL.

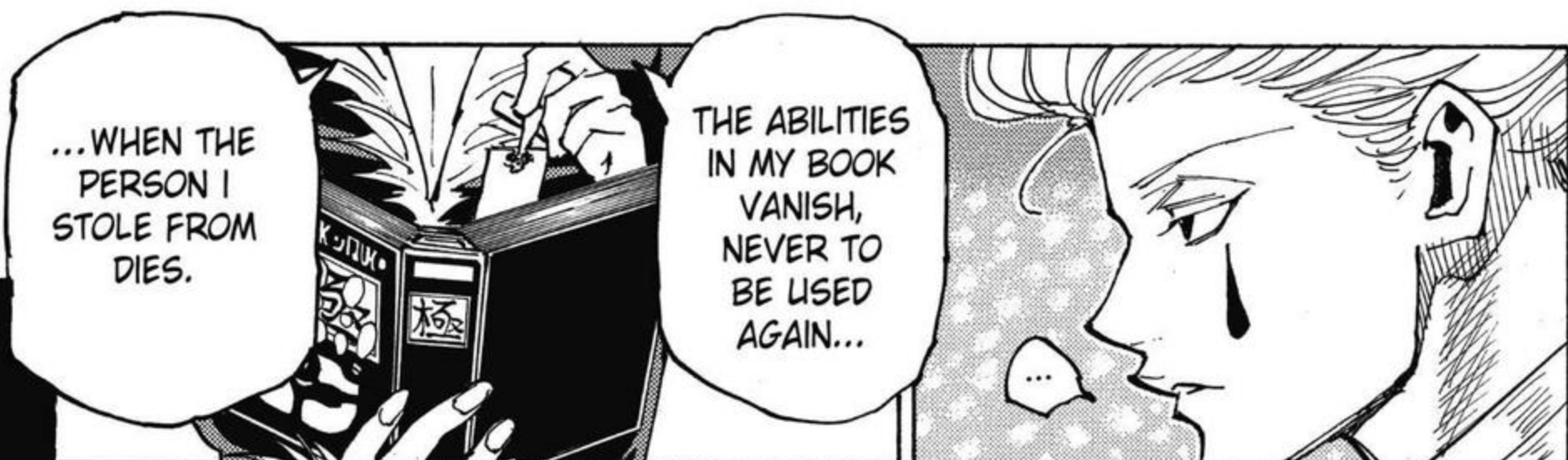


THE ABILITIES ARE SIMILAR, BUT THEY BOTH HAVE DISTINCT ROLES.

GALLERY FAKE AND CONVERT HANDS CAN CREATE HUMAN COPIES, BUT YOU NEED A MANIPULATING ABILITY TO CONTROL THEM.

PLACE THE BOOKMARK, AND WITH THE MARKS REMAINING, ACTIVATE GALLERY FAKE... THE BOOK GETS IN THE WAY.

COULD GALLERY FAKE CREATE A COPY OF HIM WITH THE MARKS...? NO.







I
TEND TO
AGREE.

UNLIKE ORDER
STAMP'S OWNER,
THE ELDER
THOUGHT THERE
WASN'T MUCH
DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN
HUMANS AND
PUPPETS.

WHEN SOMEONE
IN THE OUTSIDE
WORLD ATTACKED
ONE OF THE
RESIDENTS, HE
TURNED ONE OF
OUR BRETHREN
INTO A BOMB TO
DELIVER OUR
MESSAGE.

THE ORIGINAL
OWNER WAS
METEOR CITY'S
ELDER.



THE
SUN AND
MOON...

YES...

...WHAT
I'M TRYING
TO SAY?

DO YOU
UNDER-
STAND...



...CANNOT BE
REMOVED...!

...ONCE
MARKED...





HUMANS...



**...ARE
SO VERY...**

...INTERESTING.



THE BOOK-
MARK...!!





**BLACK
VOICE:
"MOBILE
FATE
DIRECTOR"
!!**



**BUNGEE
GUM:
"ELASTIC
LOVE"!!**



WHO A A A A...



THE BATTLE
RESUMES!!
BUT...
HISOKA GOES
CHASING
AFTER
CHROLLO...

...INTO
THE
STANDS
?!

RAAH HHHHHH

WHAT'S
GOING
ON?!



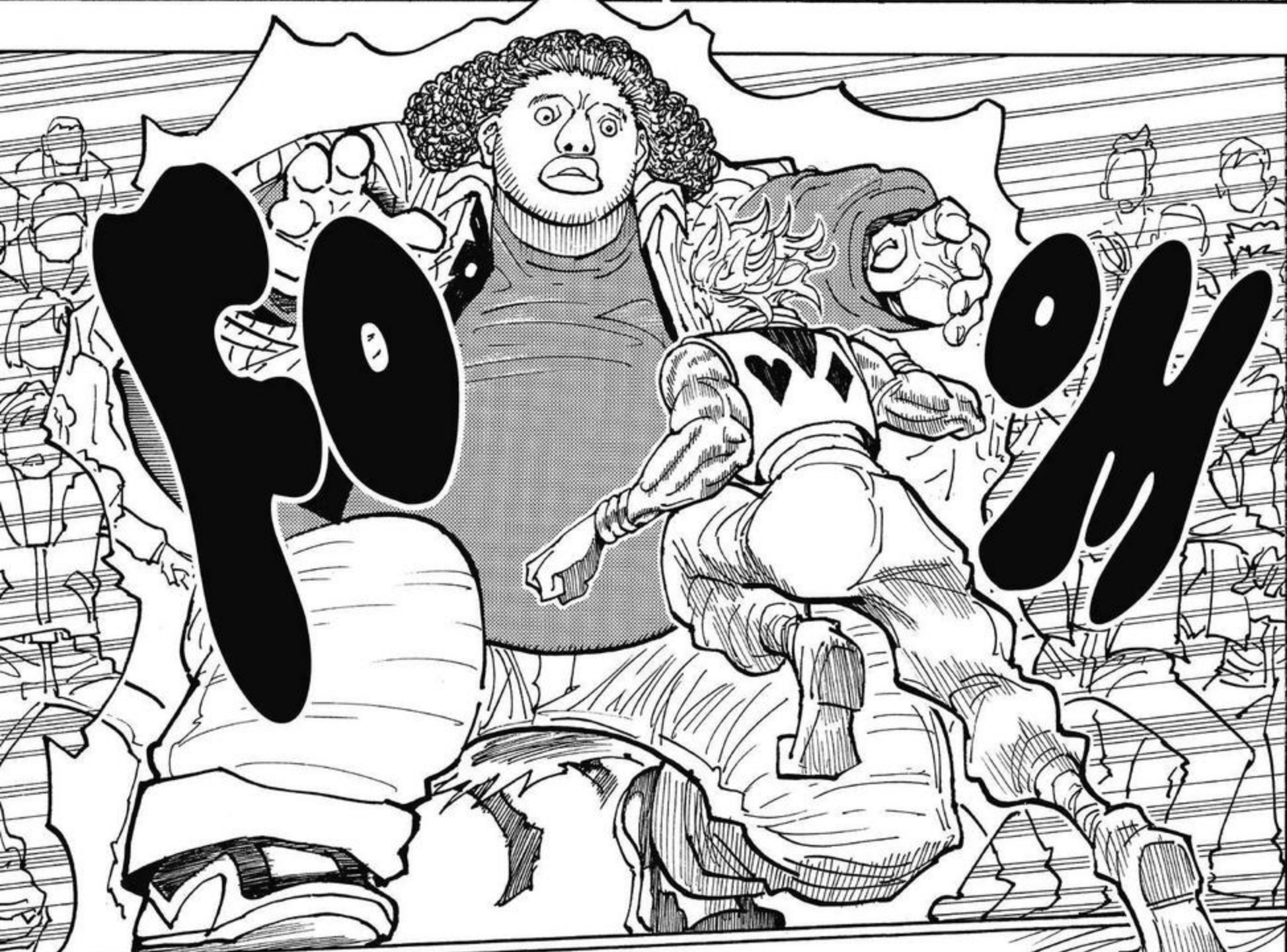


...IF I GET CLOSER...

BUT...

...BUT IF I STAY AWAY, I PLAY INTO CHROLLO'S HANDS...

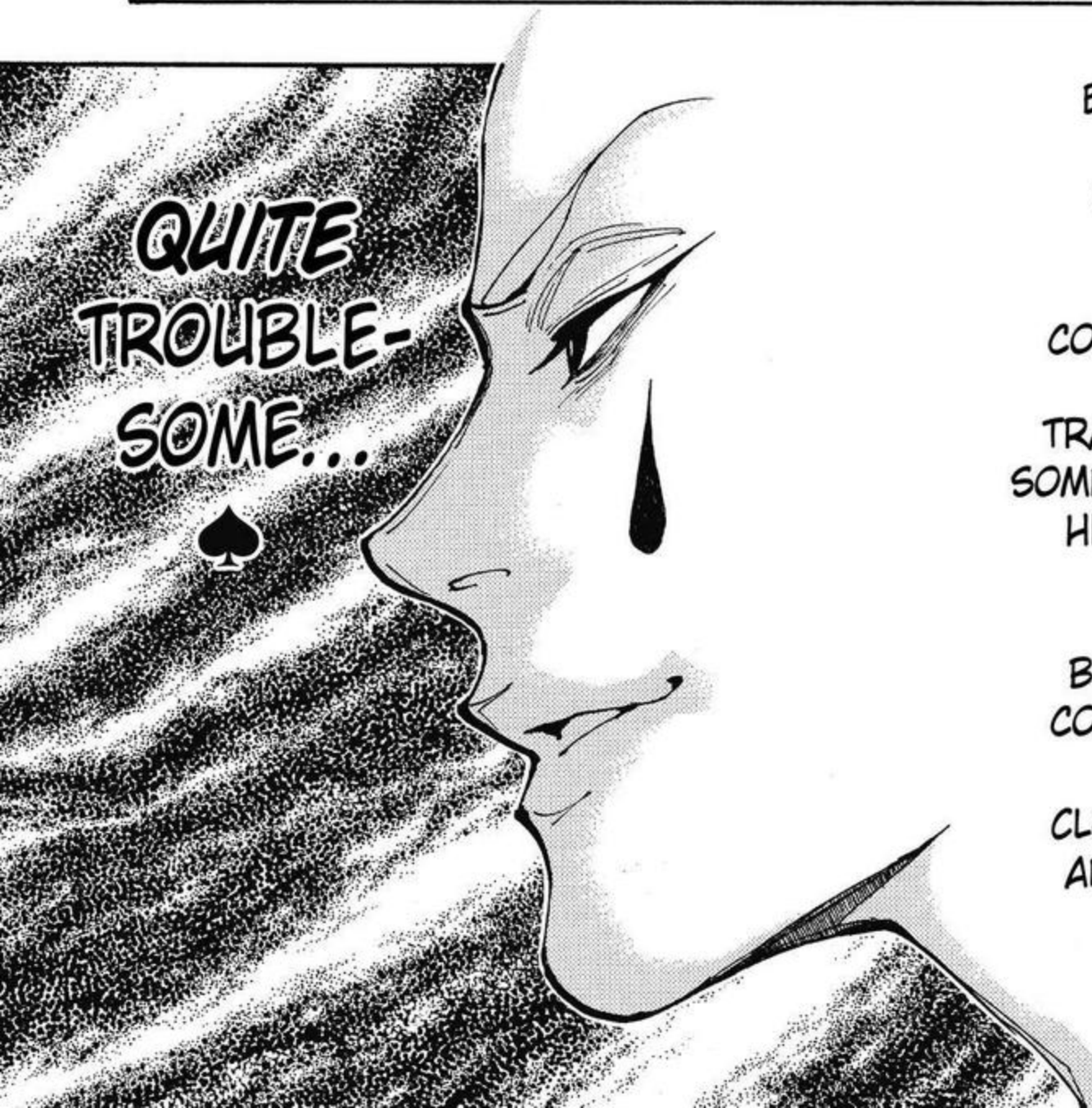
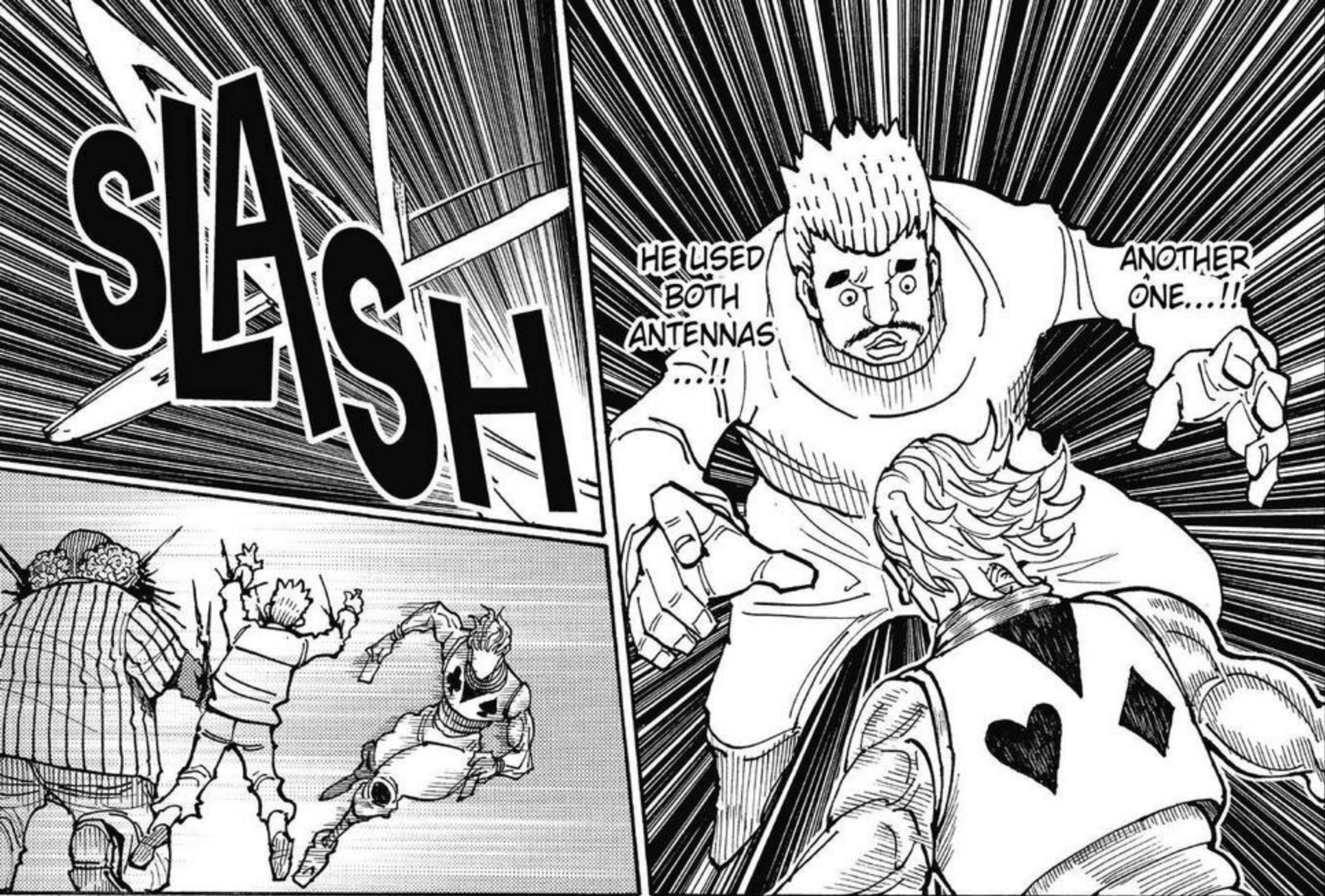
IF I GET TOO CLOSE, THE ANTENNA IS DANGEROUS...



HE'LL TRY TO BLOCK MY SIGHT...!!

I KNEW IT...!





BLACK VOICE
↓
BOOKMARK
↓
ACTIVATE
CONVERT HANDS
↓
TRANSFORM INTO
SOMEONE ELSE WITH
HIS LEFT HAND
↓
MOVE THE
BOOKMARK TO
CONVERT HANDS
↓
CLOSE THE BOOK
AND LIE IN WAIT









THE
AUDIENCE
MEMBERS...

WHAT'S
GOING
ON?!

...ARE
ATTACKING
HISOKA!!!



AT CHROLLO'S SPEED, HE MIGHT MAKE EVEN MORE...?

ABOUT 30 PUPPETS THAT WON'T STOP UNTIL THEY'RE BEHEADED...



I SHOULD BIDE MY TIME UNTIL THERE ARE FEWER PEOPLE RUNNING ABOUT...

VQU

THERE MUST BE MORE PUPPETS THAT HAVEN'T BEEN GIVEN COMMANDS YET...!!



OPEN BOOK TO GALLERY FAKE

BOOKMARK

CREATE A CROWD OF COPIES

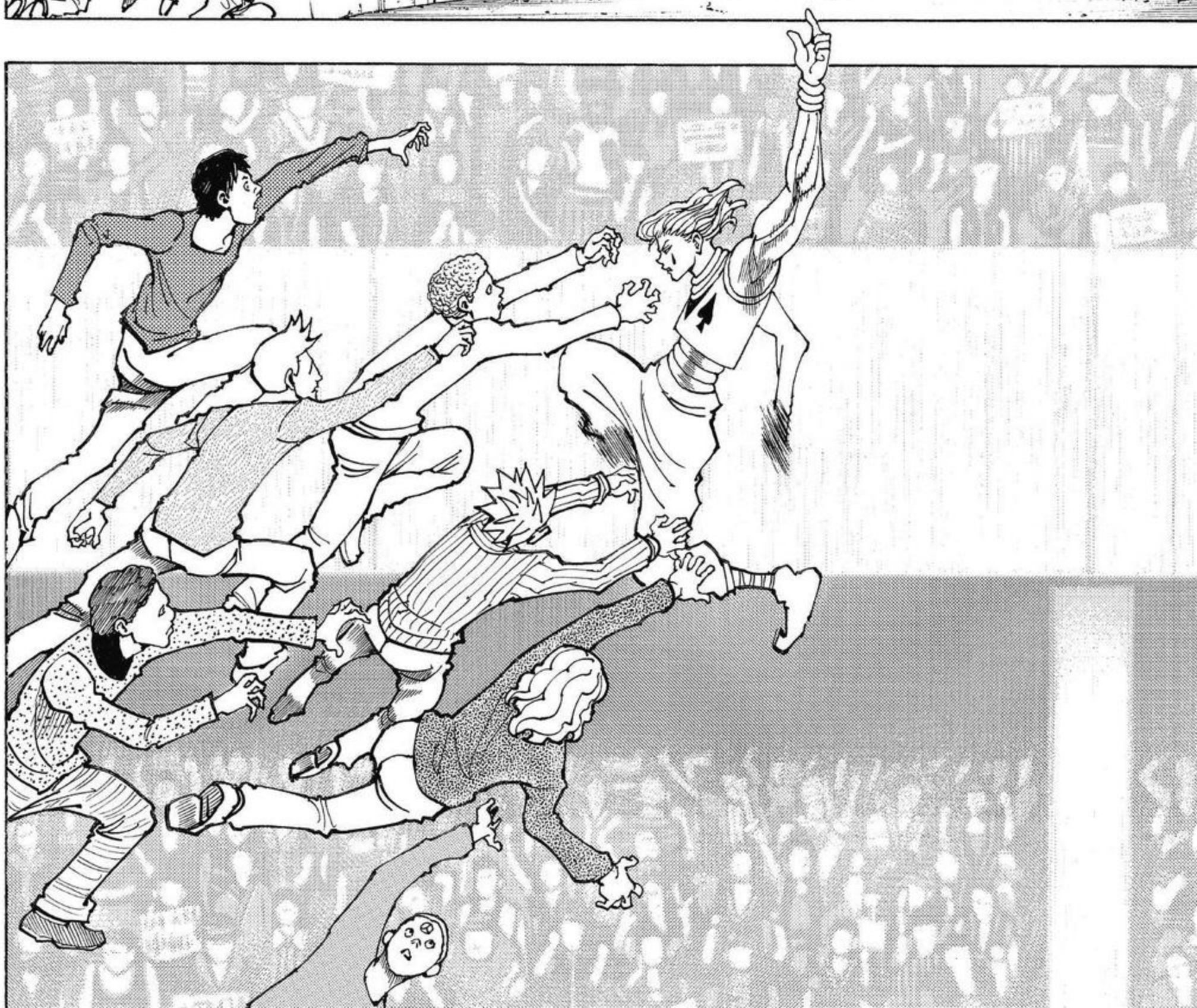
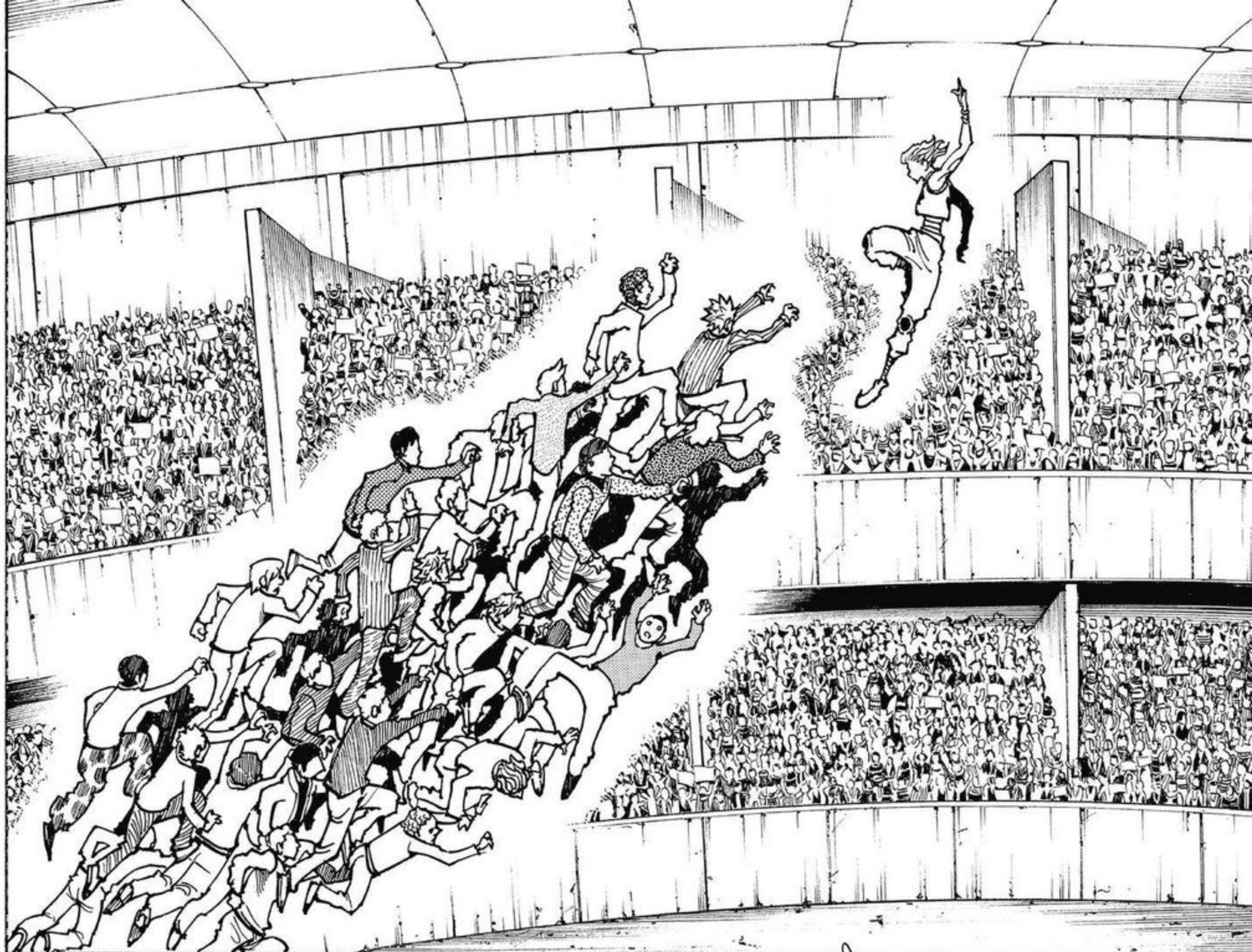
ACTIVATE ORDER STAMP

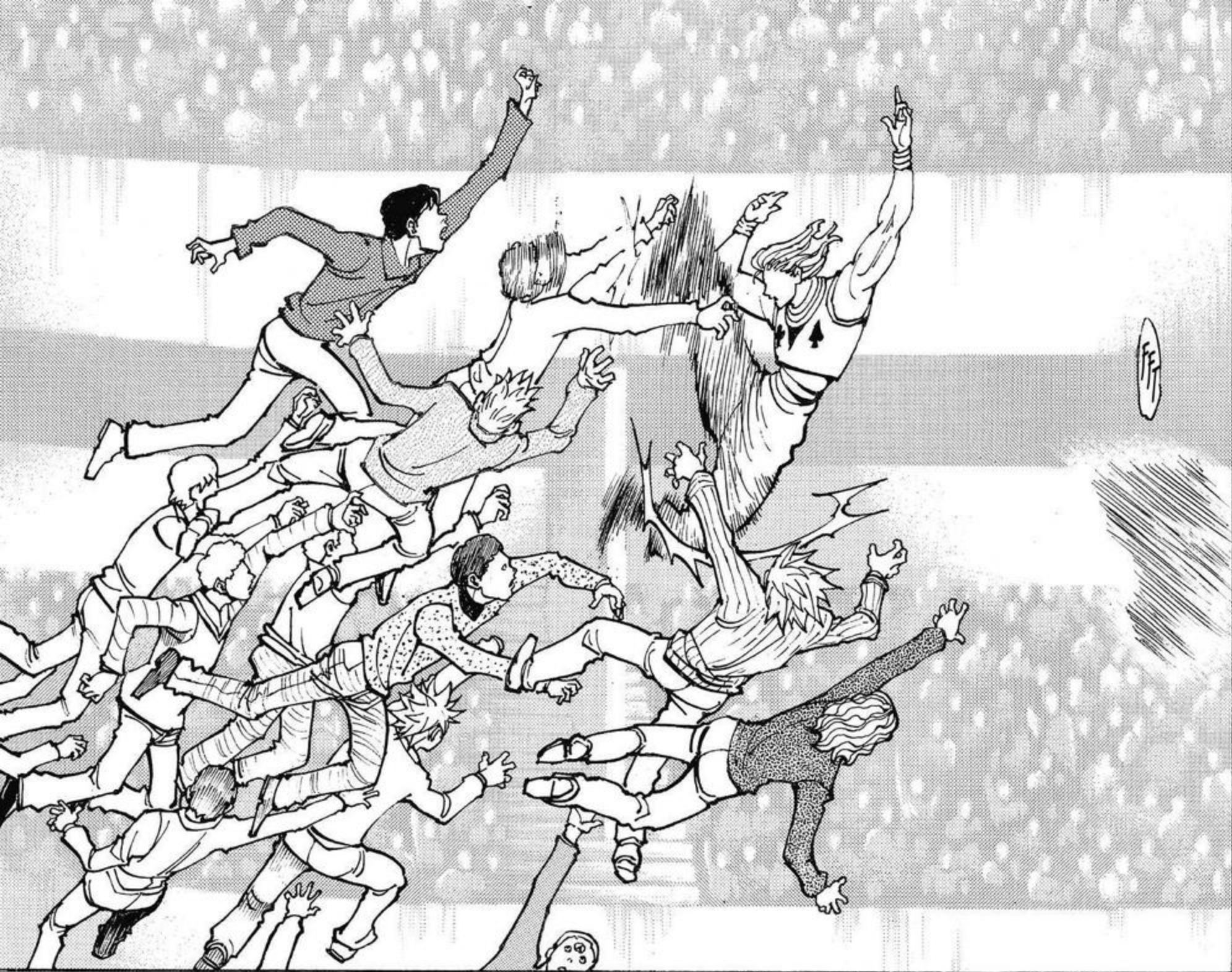
COMMAND THEM TO "BREAK HISOKA"

I SEE.

EVERYONE IN THE AUDIENCE HERE KNOWS WHO I AM...









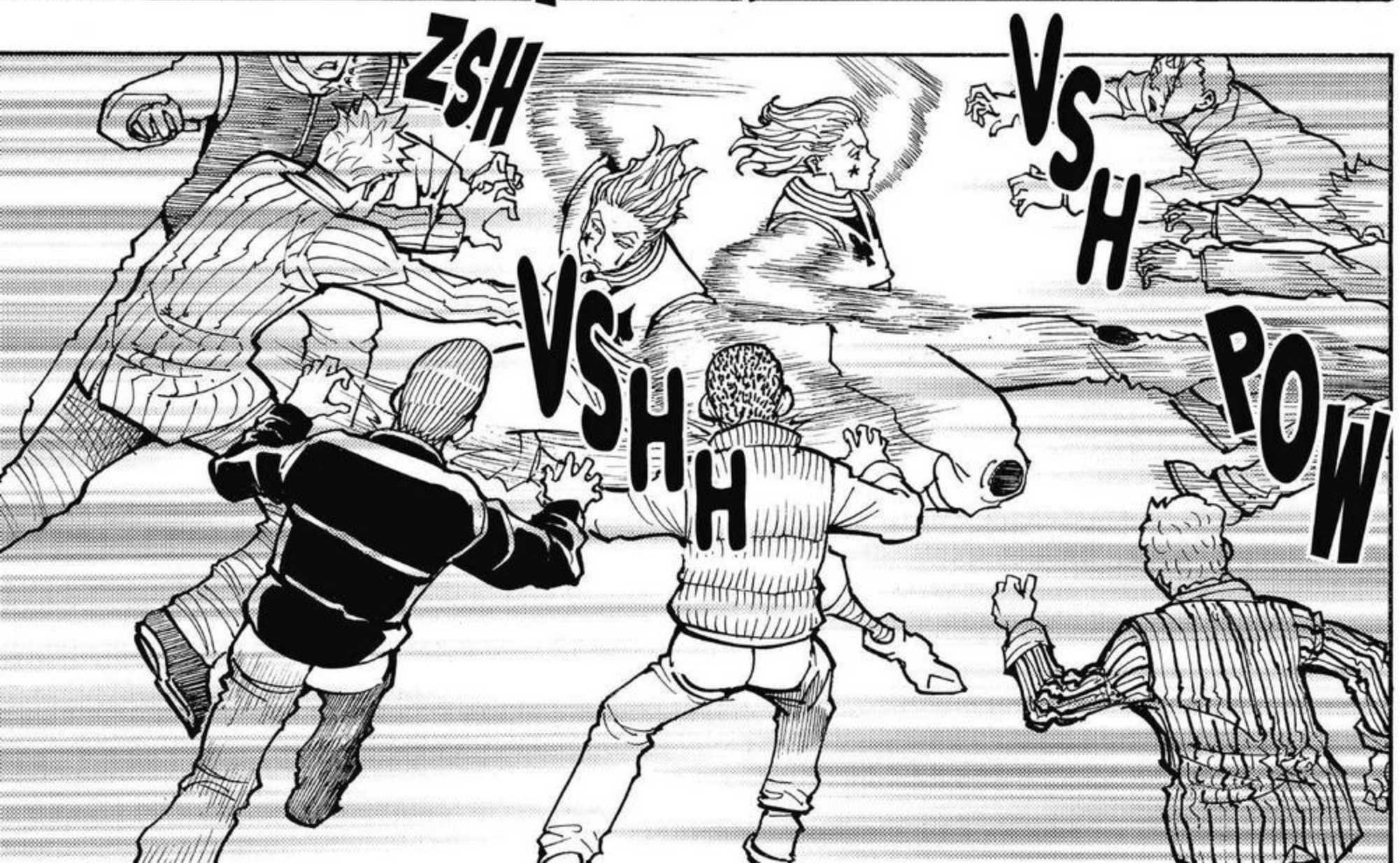
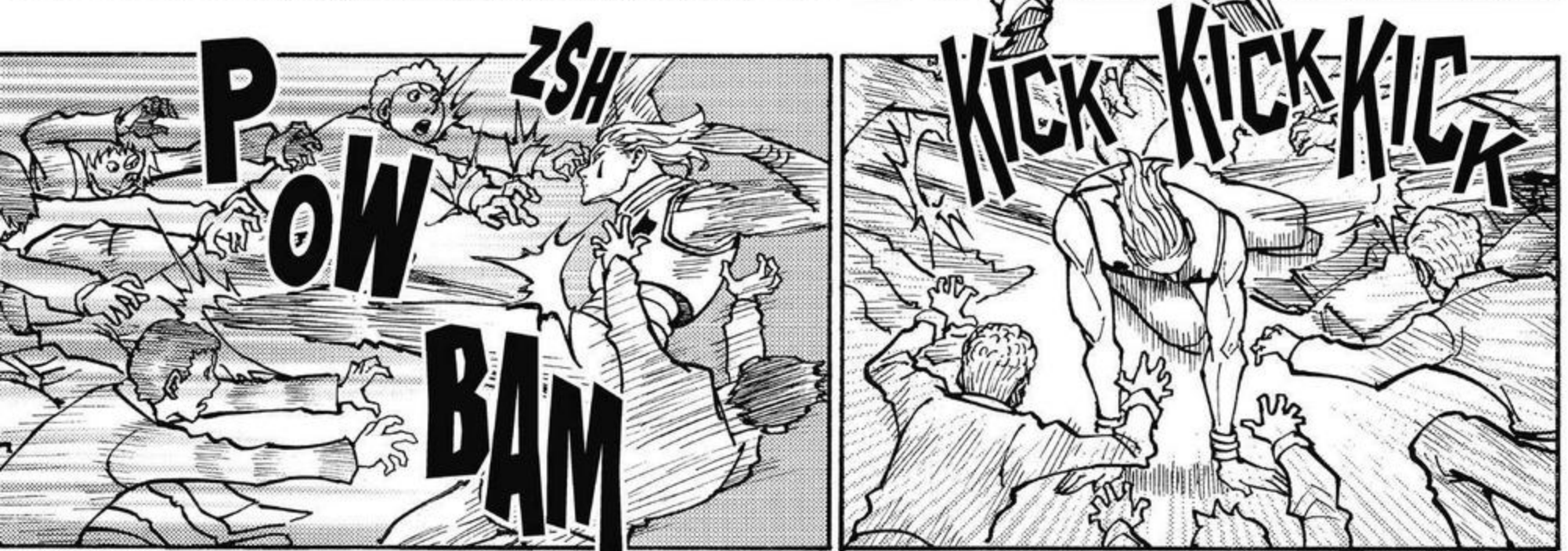


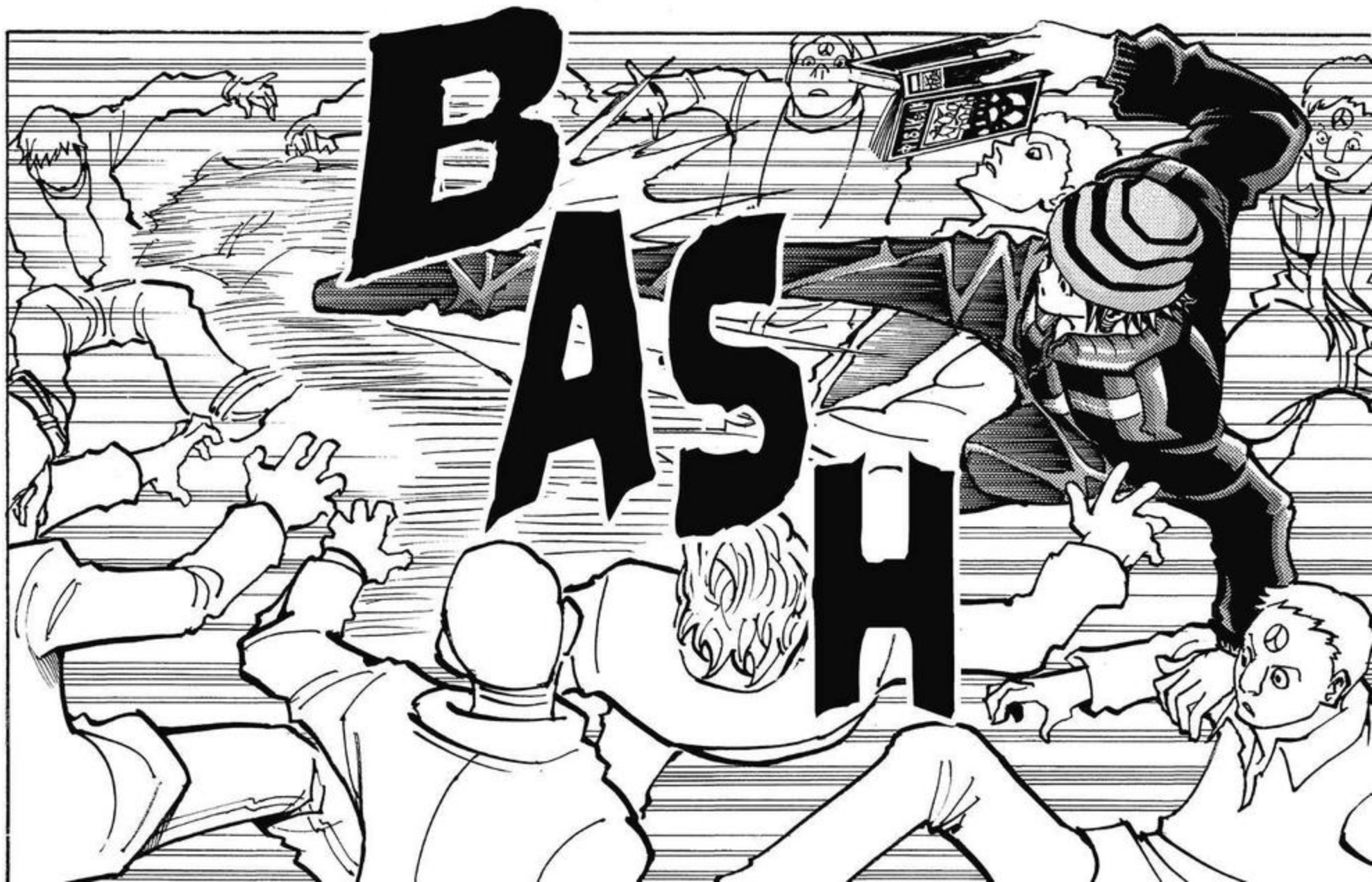
HOW
COULD HE
MODIFY
HIS
ATTACK
ANGLE
FROM
THERE
...?!

HE
WAS
GOING
FOR
MY
LEFT
FLANK
!!











SO COLD-
BLOODED AND
CALCULATING.

AND HE'S
FORCING ME
INTO THE
THRONG OF
PUPPETS...



KRAK
KRAK



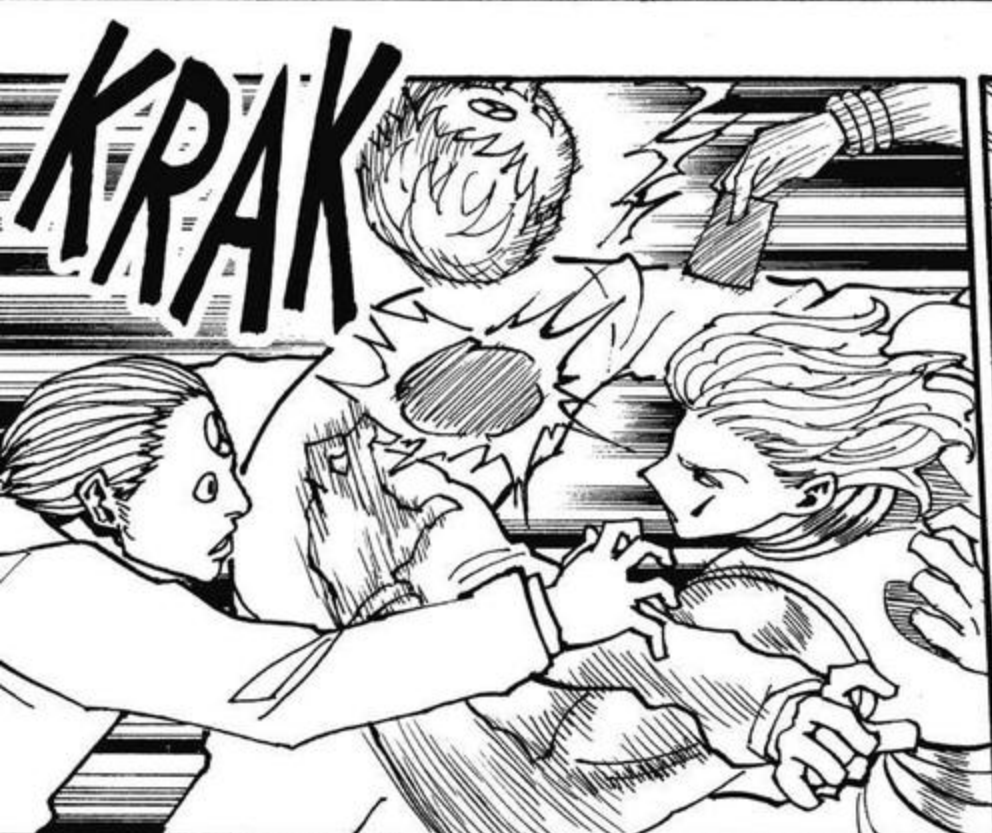
WIN
COMING
IN FOR A
STRIKE, THEN
SPRINGING
AWAY, TRYING
TO LAND
MORTAL
BLOWS.

HE'S
WAITING FOR
GUARANTEED
HITS!!!

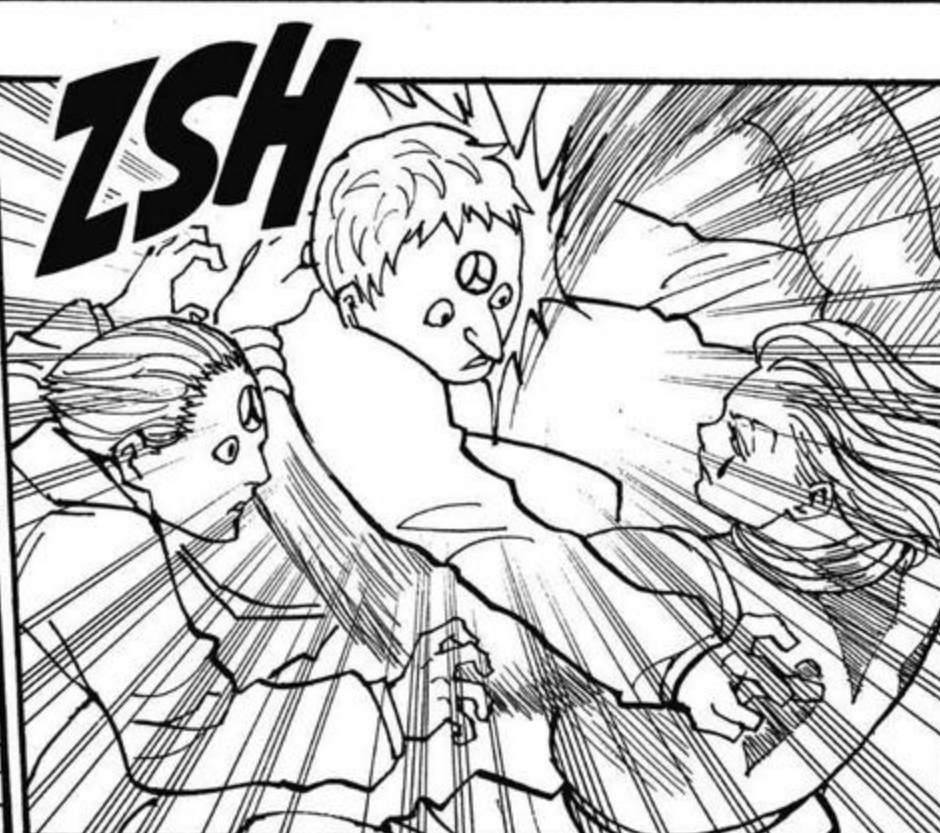


I
HAVE TO
DECREASE
THEIR
NUMBERS
ONE BY
ONE.

HE WON'T BE ABLE
TO CREATE NEW
PUPPETS WHILE
HE'S CONTROLLING
THE CURRENT CROP!

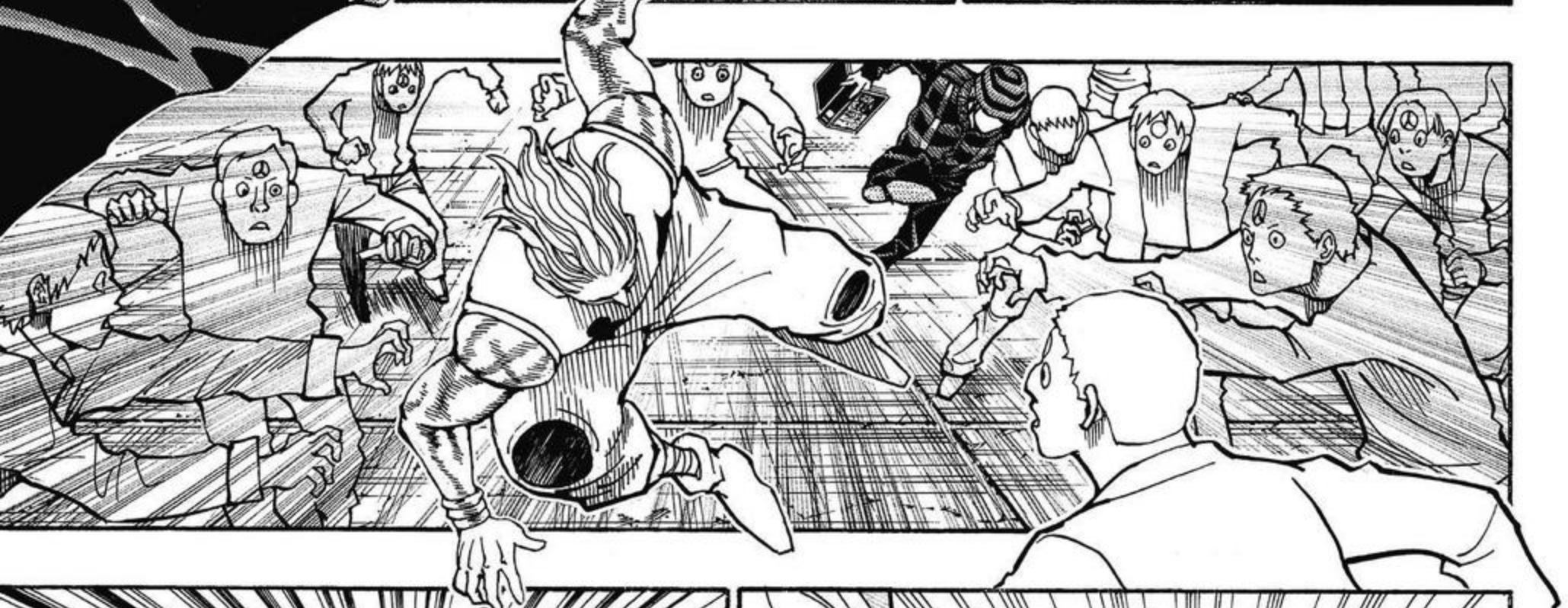
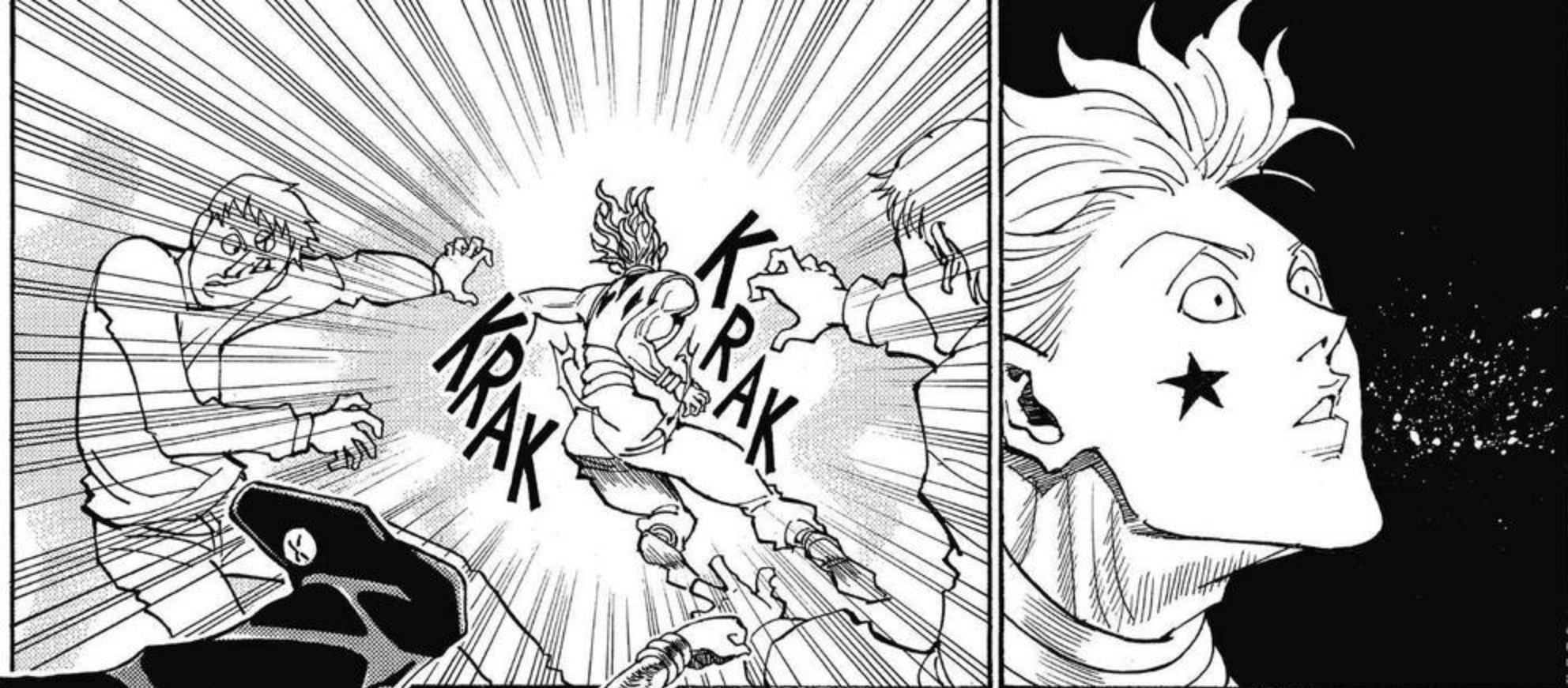


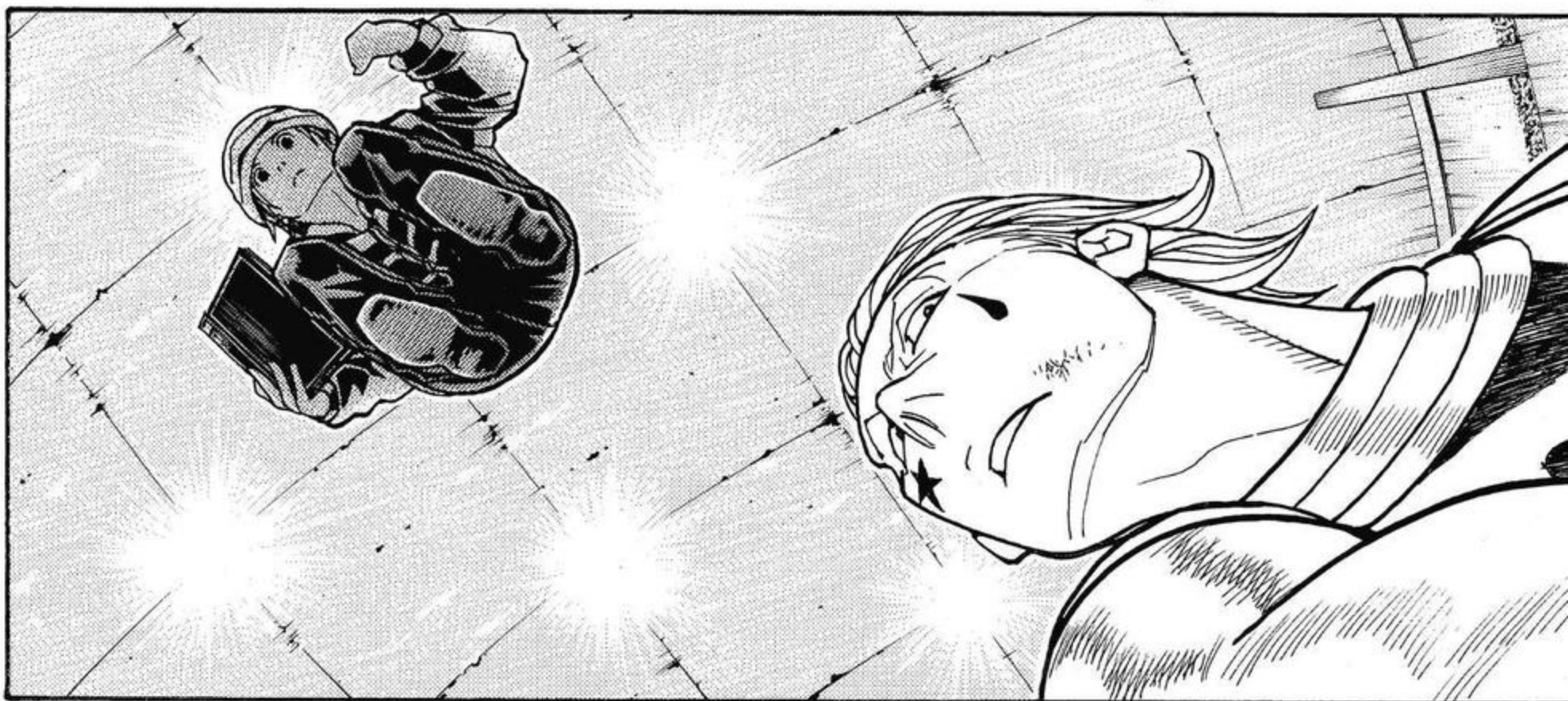
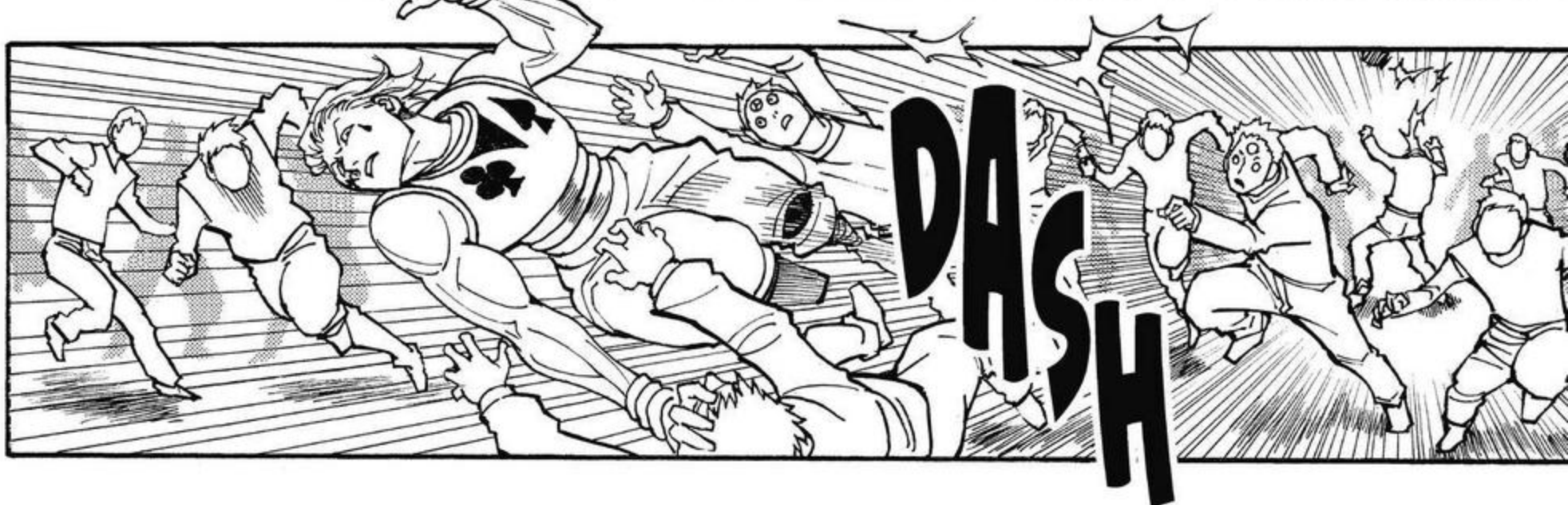
KRAK



ZSH







ACTIVATE
BLNGEE
GLIM!







I
KNOW.



BOWLING,
HUH...



Chapter 354: Head

AN ADULT
MALE HEAD
WEIGHS
ABOUT
7 TO 8 KG.



ABOUT AS MUCH
AS OR HEAVIER
THAN A MALE
PROFESSIONAL
BOWLER'S
REGULATION
BOWLING BALL.



...CAUGHT BY
GUMMY AURA
FROM MY LEFT
LEG TO ATTACK
FROM HIS BLIND
SPOT!!

A SECOND
HEAD SECURED
AND LAUNCHED
BY MY GUM...



....!



SHRINK!!





SKSHH
SKSHH
SKSHH
SKSHH

URF

...WON'T
LET GO.
♥

WOW...
♥

YOU
STILL...

VW

VW

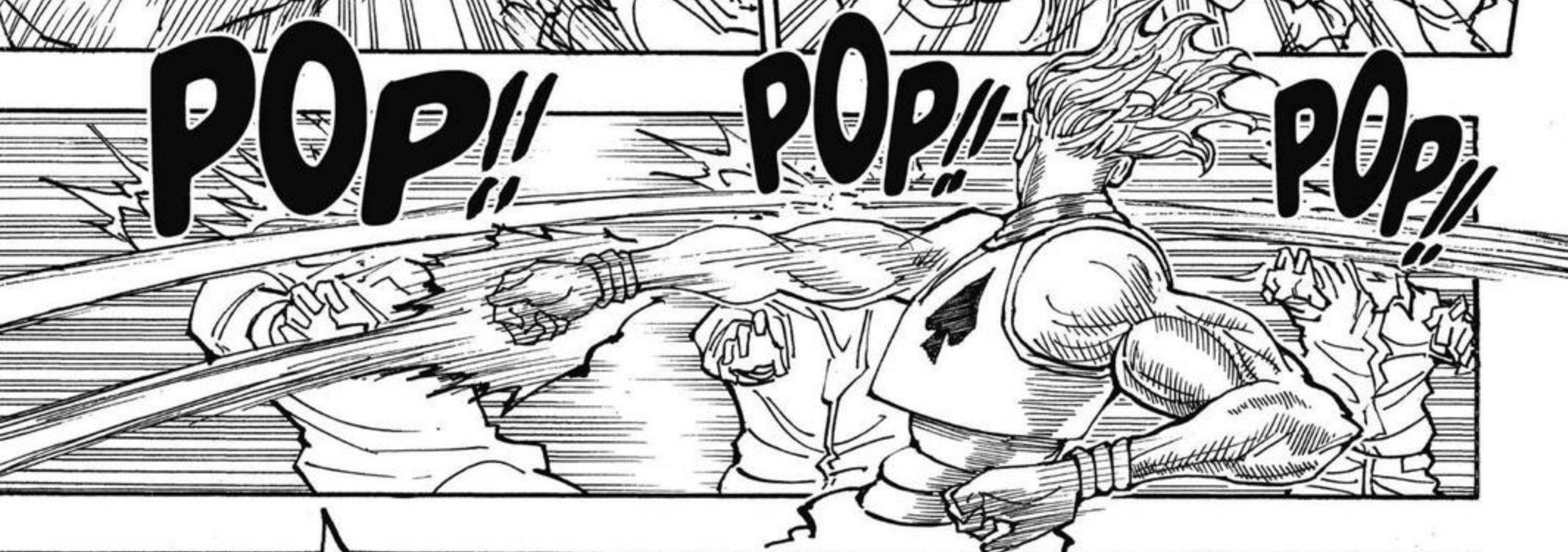
PA AH

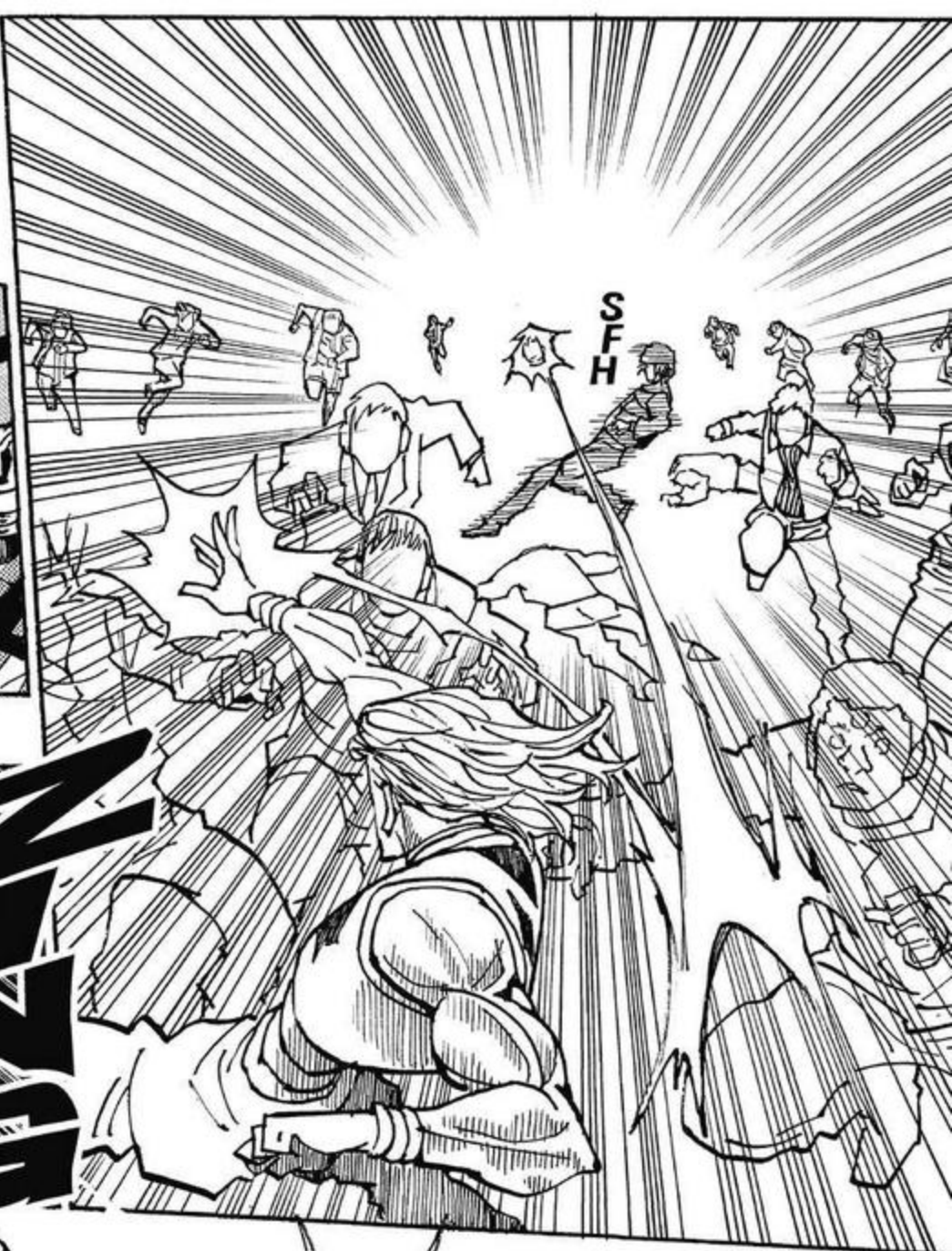
THE CROWD
IS IN CHAOS!!
THE JUDGE
IS DEAD!!
WHAT A
MESS!!

HE'S
DRAWN
BLOOD
FROM
CHROLLO!!

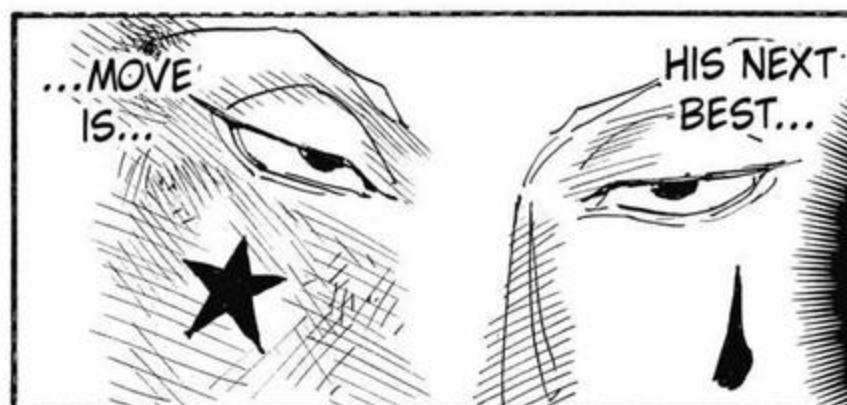
HISOKA
SUCCEEDS
IN STRIKING
BACK!!





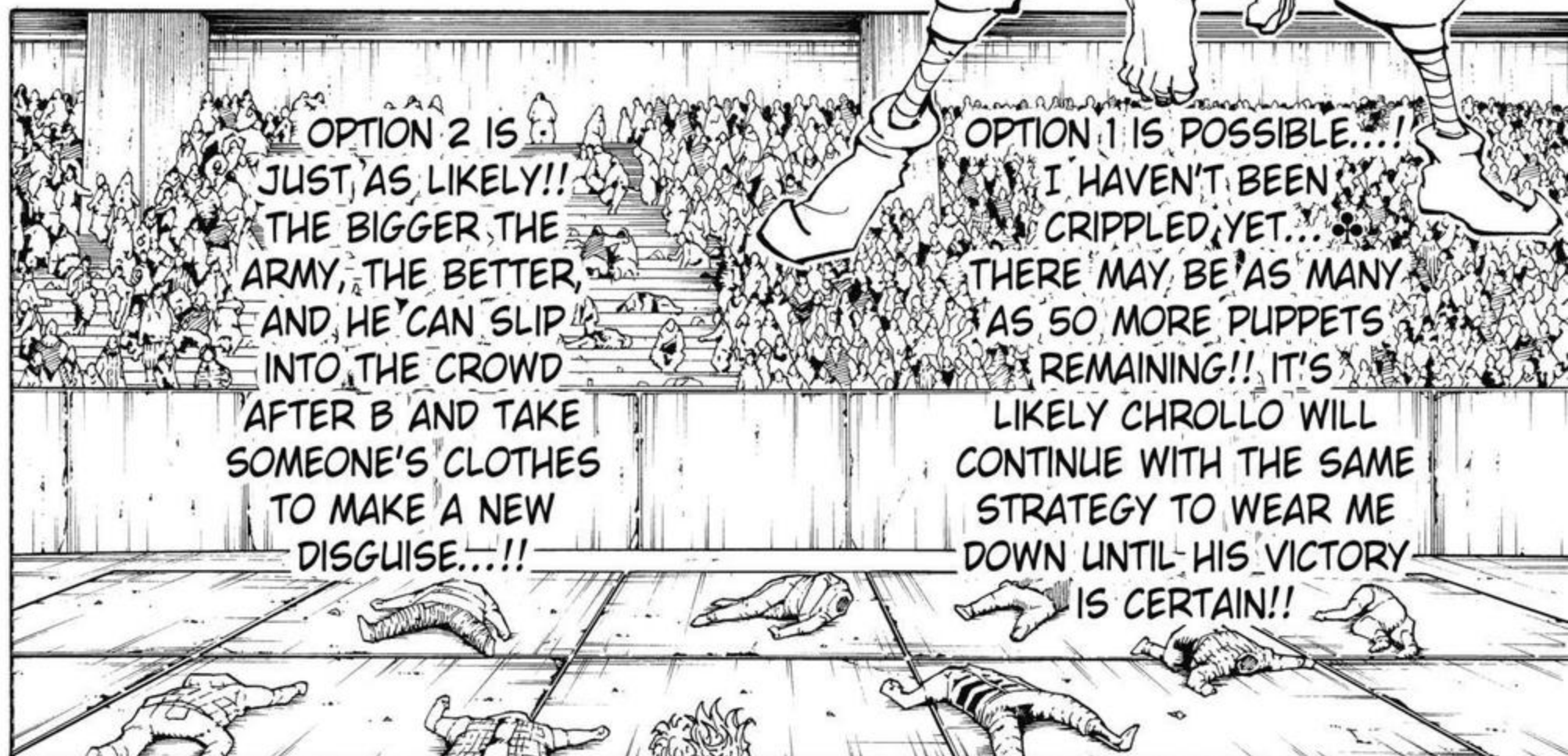






AS LONG AS THIS ONE EXISTS AND THE STAMP REMAINS, CHROLLO'S ACTIONS WILL BE LIMITED...!

- 1) KEEP THE STAMP ACTIVATED, AND GIVE A NEW COMMAND TO THE WAITING PUPPETS, OR...
2) DEACTIVATE THE STAMP, AND MAKE MORE COPY PUPPETS WITH GALLERY FAKE...
AND THEN...
A) ACTIVATE THE STAMP AND ISSUE NEW COMMANDS, OR...
B) CHANGE HIS APPEARANCE USING CONVERT HANDS WITH HIS LEFT HAND.



OPTION 2 IS JUST AS LIKELY!! THE BIGGER THE ARMY, THE BETTER, AND HE CAN SLIP INTO THE CROWD AFTER B AND TAKE SOMEONE'S CLOTHES TO MAKE A NEW DISGUISE...!!

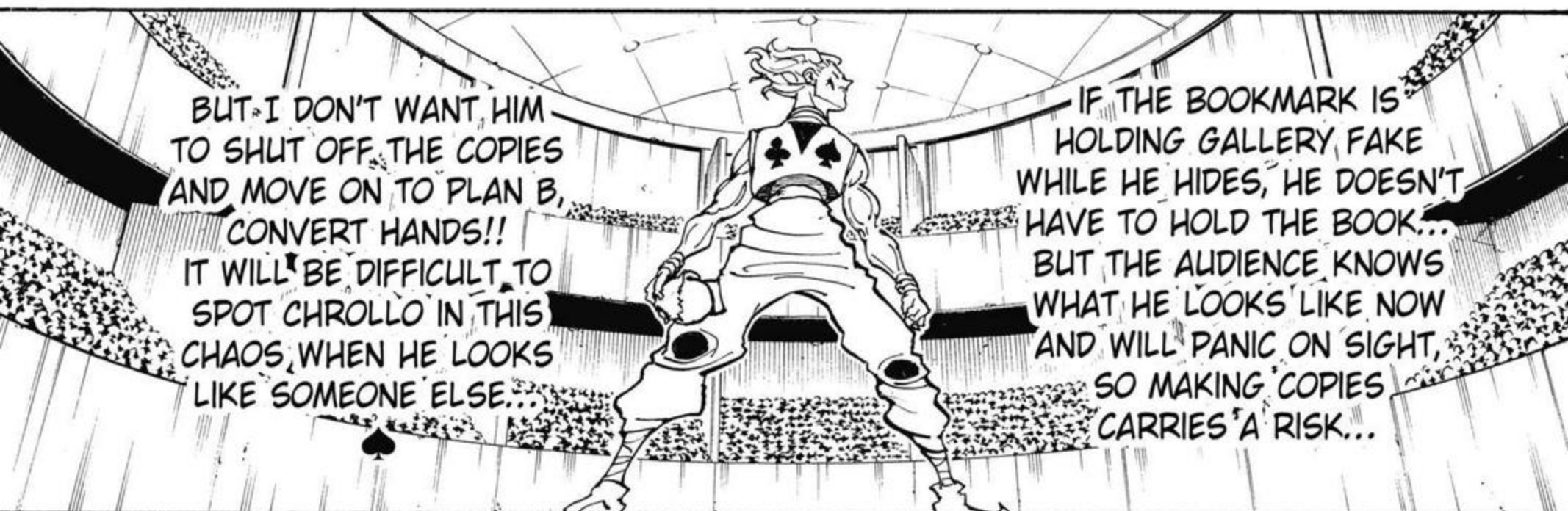
OPTION 1 IS POSSIBLE...! I HAVEN'T BEEN CRIPPLED YET... THERE MAY BE AS MANY AS 50 MORE PUPPETS REMAINING!! IT'S LIKELY CHROLLO WILL CONTINUE WITH THE SAME STRATEGY TO WEAR ME DOWN UNTIL HIS VICTORY IS CERTAIN!!



OPTION 2 IT IS!!

THE STAMP IS GONE...!

FUS FUS DROP



BUT I DON'T WANT HIM
TO SHUT OFF THE COPIES
AND MOVE ON TO PLAN B,
CONVERT HANDS!!
IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO
SPOT CHROLLO IN THIS
CHAOS, WHEN HE LOOKS
LIKE SOMEONE ELSE.

IF THE BOOKMARK IS
HOLDING GALLERY, FAKE
WHILE HE HIDES, HE DOESN'T
HAVE TO HOLD THE BOOK...
BUT THE AUDIENCE KNOWS
WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE NOW
AND WILL PANIC ON SIGHT,
SO MAKING COPIES
CARRIES A RISK...



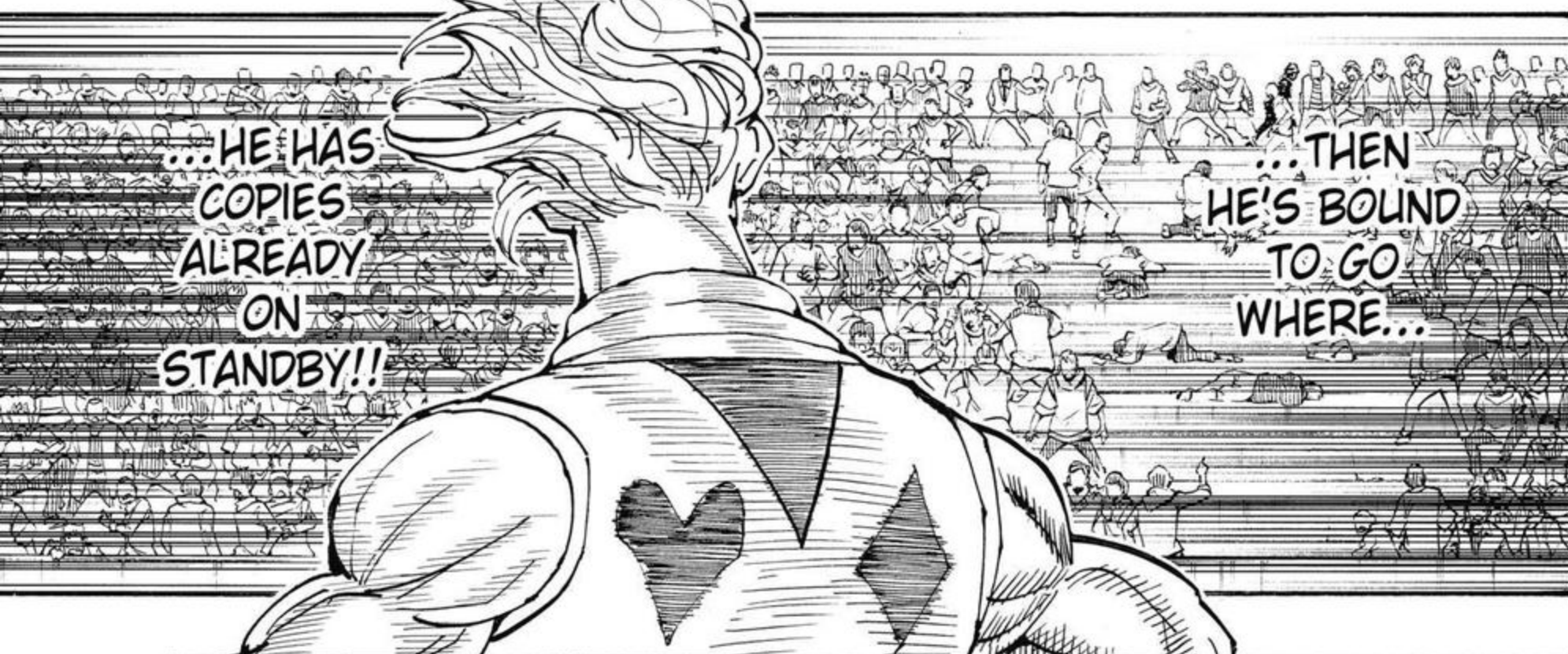
...WHILE
ON THE
MOVE...

IF HE
MAKES
COPIES...

...FIND HIM
FIRST...!!

WHERE
IS HE
...?!

I
MUST...



...HE HAS
COPIES
ALREADY
ON
STANDBY!!

...THEN
HE'S BOUND
TO GO
WHERE...



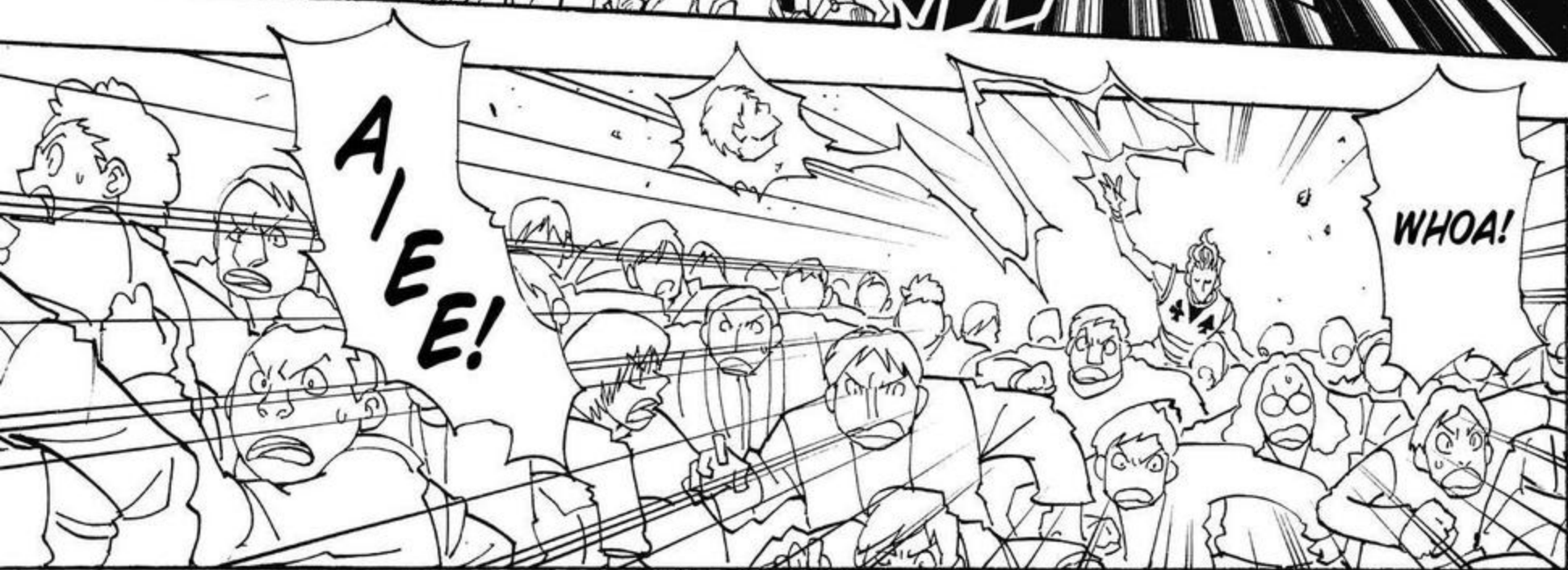


....AND ALSO
STAMP THE
PREVIOUS
PUPPETS
....!!

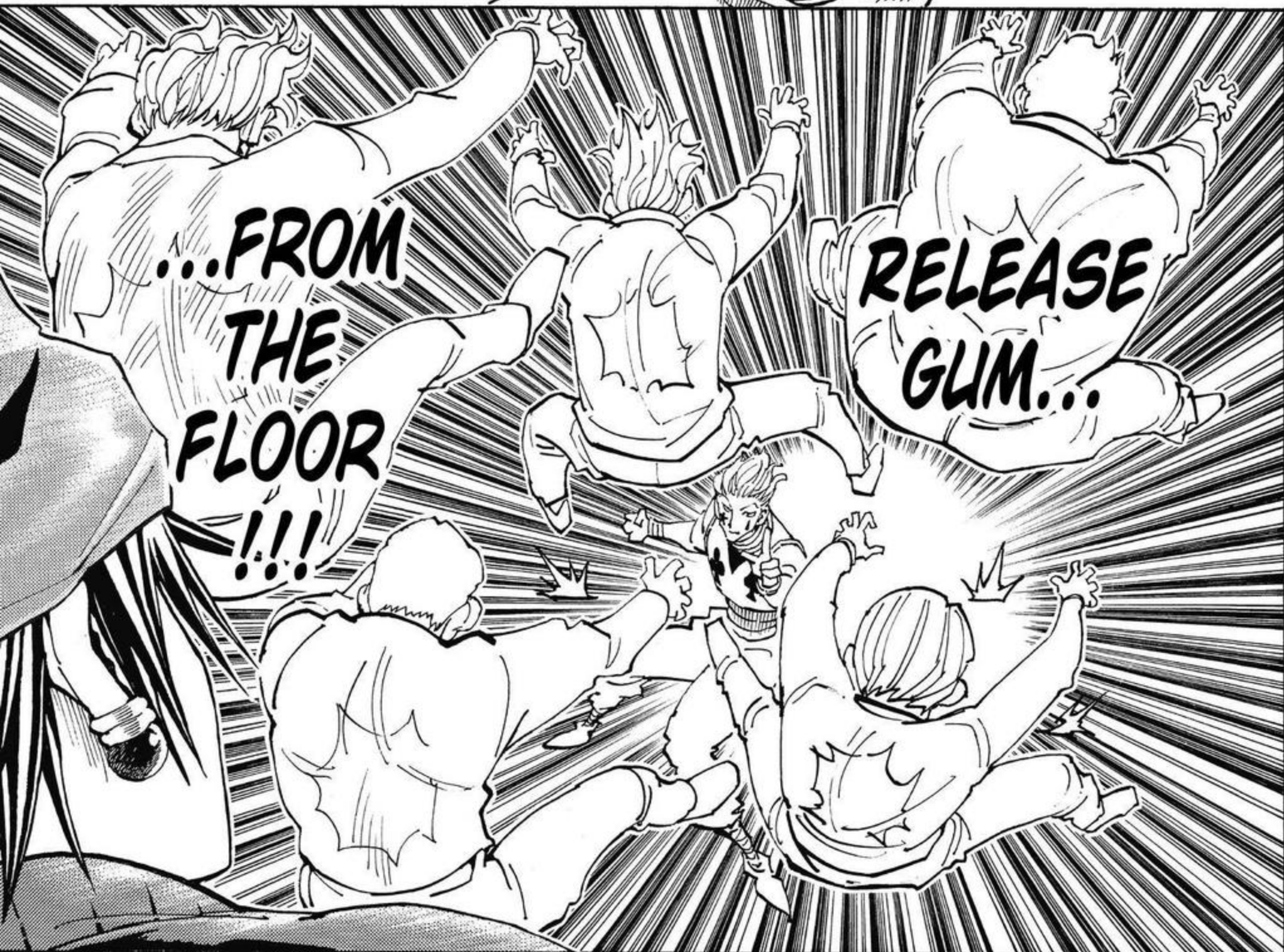
THAT WAY
HE CAN
PRODUCE
MORE
COPIES...

PA









...AND MY HUMAN
BULLETS WILL
DO THE WORK
TO STORE THEIR
OWN POTENTIAL
ENERGY...



NO!



STOP!

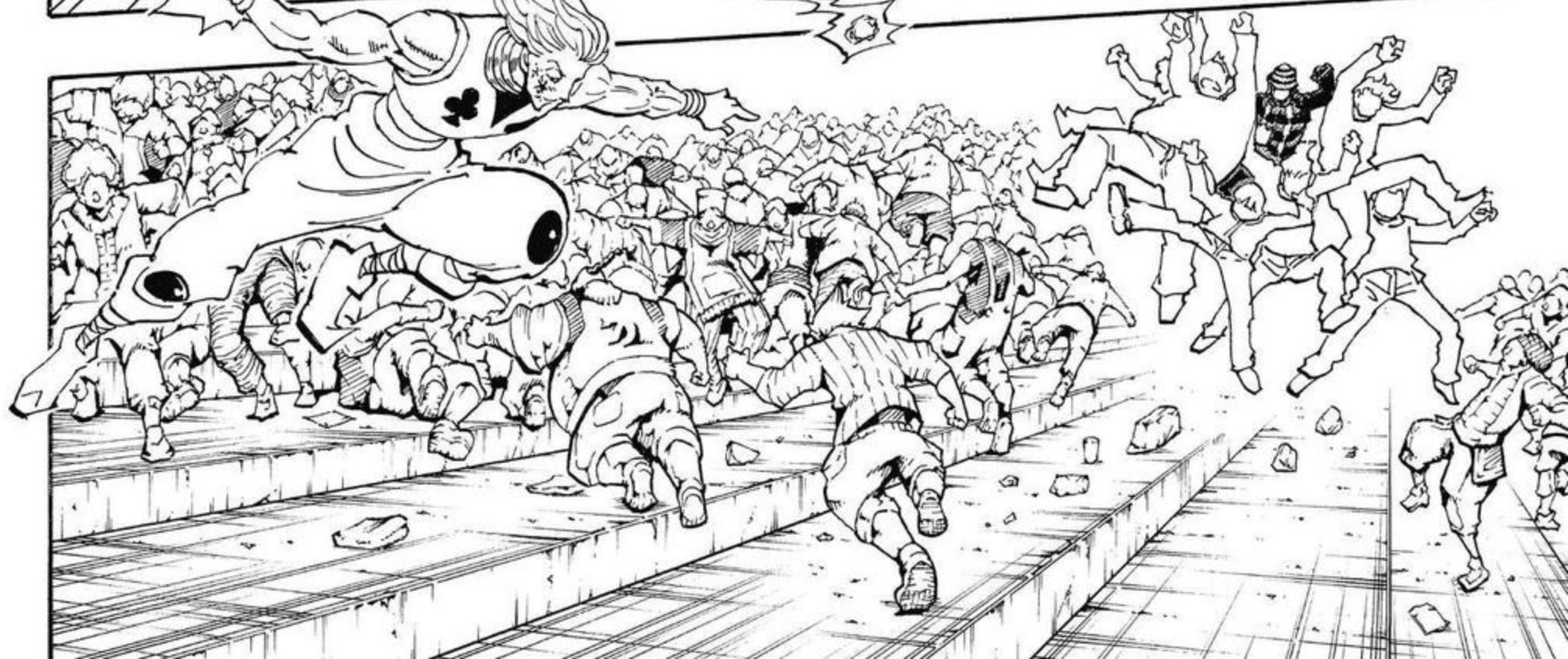


STICK THE
BUNGEE GUM
ON THE BACKS
OF THE FLEEING
PEOPLE AND TO
THE FLOOR...

RUN!



STRETCH







IT WAS
ALREADY
ON
THERE...

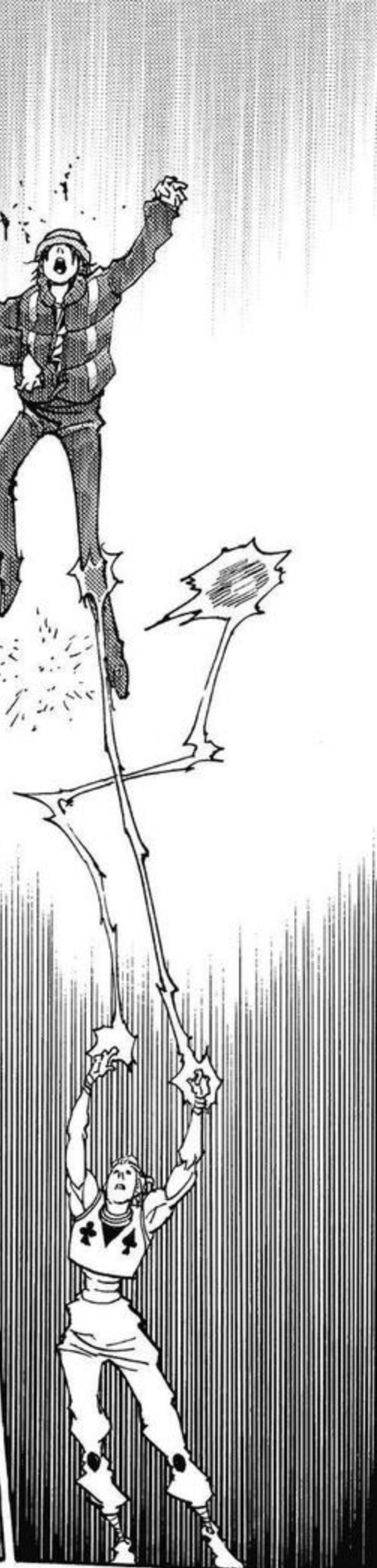
...WHEN I
SENT THE
AUDIENCE
FLYING...!

SHRINK
!!

NO... IT'S
IMPOSSIBLE...!!

WHEN?!





BUT THEN...

IN CONJUNCTION WITH BLACK VOICE?!

HE MADE A COPY OF HIMSELF WITH RIGHT-HANDED CONVERT HANDS AND MANIPULATED HIM...?! WITH THE BOOKMARK... ON CONVERT HANDS?!

IT'S NOT HIM!!

A FAKE OUT...



THE SUN AND MOON !!

SNAP!

...IS THIS HERE...?!

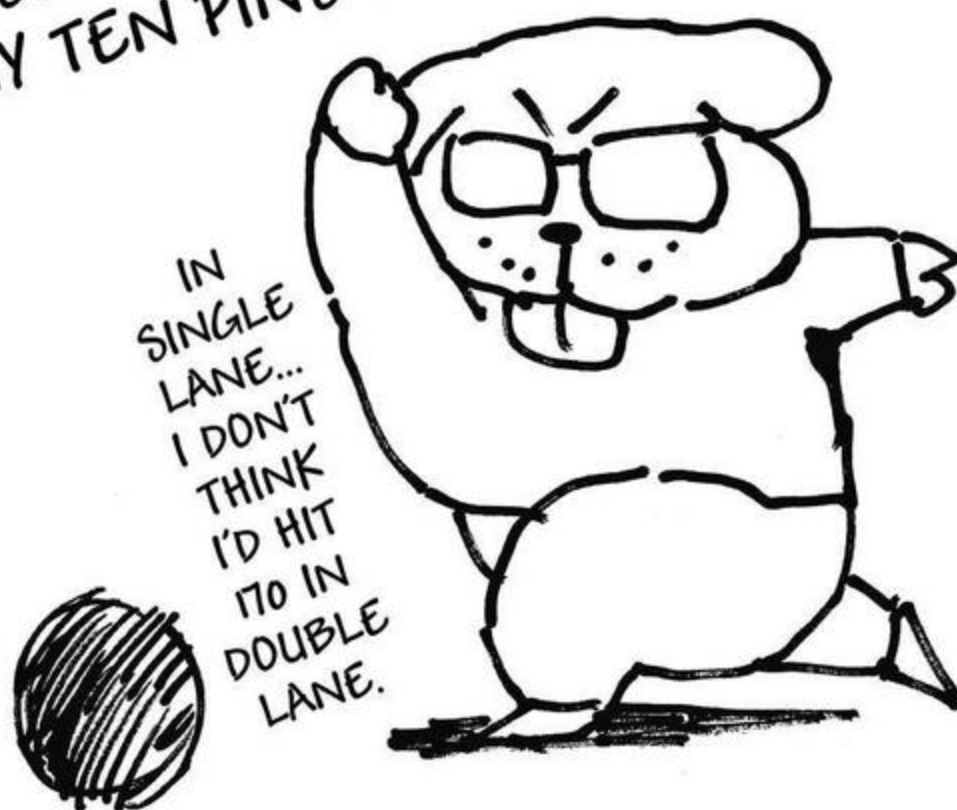
...WHY...?

BUT THAT A MARKED PUPPET WON'T VANISH!!

THE REAL TROUBLE IS... NOT THAT A MARK PLACED ON ME WOULD BE PERMANENT UNTIL IT EXPLODES...

MY YEARLY AVERAGE
USED TO BE 190...
I REMEMBER I USED TO
AIM FOR A BROOKLYN ON
PURPOSE WHEN I HAD TOO
MANY TEN PINS LEFT...

HIYAH!



IN
SINGLE
LANE...
I DON'T
THINK
I'D HIT
170 IN
DOUBLE
LANE.

...I WAS
FORCED TO
MAKE SOME
ADJUSTMENTS.

WHEN I
STOLE AN
ABILITY THAT
REQUIRED
BOTH
HANDS...

AS YOU
CAN SEE,
IT USES
BOTH
HANDS.

THE SUN
AND MOON:
"PAIRED
DESTRUC-
TION."

Chapter 355: Detonation

HE HASN'T
LIED, PER
SE...

HEH
HEH...

BUT THE SUN AND
MOON CAN BE USED
WHEN ANOTHER ABILITY
IS BOOKMARKED AND
THE PAGE IS OPENED
WITH HIS RIGHT HAND...
IN OTHER WORDS,
HE CAN IMPRINT THE
SUN WITH JUST HIS
LEFT HAND...!!

THE EXPLANATION
GOT ME TO ASSUME
THAT, LIKE GALLERY
FAKE, AN ABILITY
THAT REQUIRES
{ BOTH HANDS }
MEANS THAT IT
CAN'T BE USED IN
CONJUNCTION WITH
ANOTHER ABILITY...

...IS TO
CONFIRM
MY UNDER-
STANDING OF
CHROLLO'S
EXPLA-
NATIONS...

EVERY-
THING SO
FAR...

HE NEVER
SAID "YOU MAY
CONCLUDE
THAT GALLERY
FAKE IS STILL
IN USE WHILE
THE COPIES
REMAIN"...

AGAIN
...

WHEN
THE COPY
VANISHES,
YOU MAY
CONCLUDE
THAT
GALLERY
FAKE HAS
BEEN
DEACTIVATED.

IT'S ACTUALLY...

ACTIVATE THE SUN AND MOON ← CREATE A CROWD OF COPIES ← BOOK-MARK (CLOSE THE BOOK) ← ACTIVATE GALLERY FAKE

↓
IMPRESS THE SUN MARK ON THE COPIES

↓
DEACTIVATE (EITHER OR BOTH)
*A MARKED COPY IS "PROTECTED" BY POST-DEATH INTENSIFIED NEN AND WON'T VANISH

↓
ACTIVATE ORDER STAMP

↓
COMMAND THEM TO "BREAK HISOKA"

SO THAT'S HOW IT WAS...

INSTEAD OF...

COMMAND THEM TO "BREAK HISOKA" ← ACTIVATE ORDER STAMP ← CREATE A CROWD OF COPIES ← BOOK-MARK (CLOSE THE BOOK) ← ACTIVATE GALLERY FAKE

MAYBE...
20 TO 30
MORE...?

WITH THE SUN
AND MOON AS AN
ADDITIONAL STEP,
THE NUMBER
OF PUPPETS
SHOULD BE FEWER
THAN MY INITIAL
CALCULATIONS...



...AT A
PACE OF
ONE EVERY
COUPLE
SECONDS
...!!

BUT IF I
TAKE TOO
LONG TO
FIND HIM,
HE'LL KEEP
MAKING NEW
PUPPETS...

SHUP



THOSE
WHO THINK
THEY'RE OUT
OF RANGE
ARE PRETTY
CALM...

MOST OF THE
AUDIENCE HAS
SURPRISINGLY
STAYED PUT...

I CAN'T TELL IF ANY
OF THE PEOPLE
TAKING CARE OF
EACH OTHER
ARE CHROLLO.

HE'S LOOKING
FOR CHROLLO,
WHO'S
DISAPPEARED!!

WHAT NOW?!
HISOKA
STANDS IN
THE MIDDLE
OF THE
ARENA!!

BUT
HE CAN'T
EXACTLY
TAKE HIS
TIME...!

CHROLLO
CAN PREPARE
ALL HE
WANTS RIGHT
NOW...



HE HAS TO FINISH
THIS BEFORE THEN,
OR THE WAITING
PUPPETS WILL BE
MISTAKEN FOR THE
INJURED AND BE
CARRIED OUT.

IN TEN MINUTES
OR SO,
PARAMEDICS
AND SECURITY
PERSONNEL WILL
COME POURING
IN...!



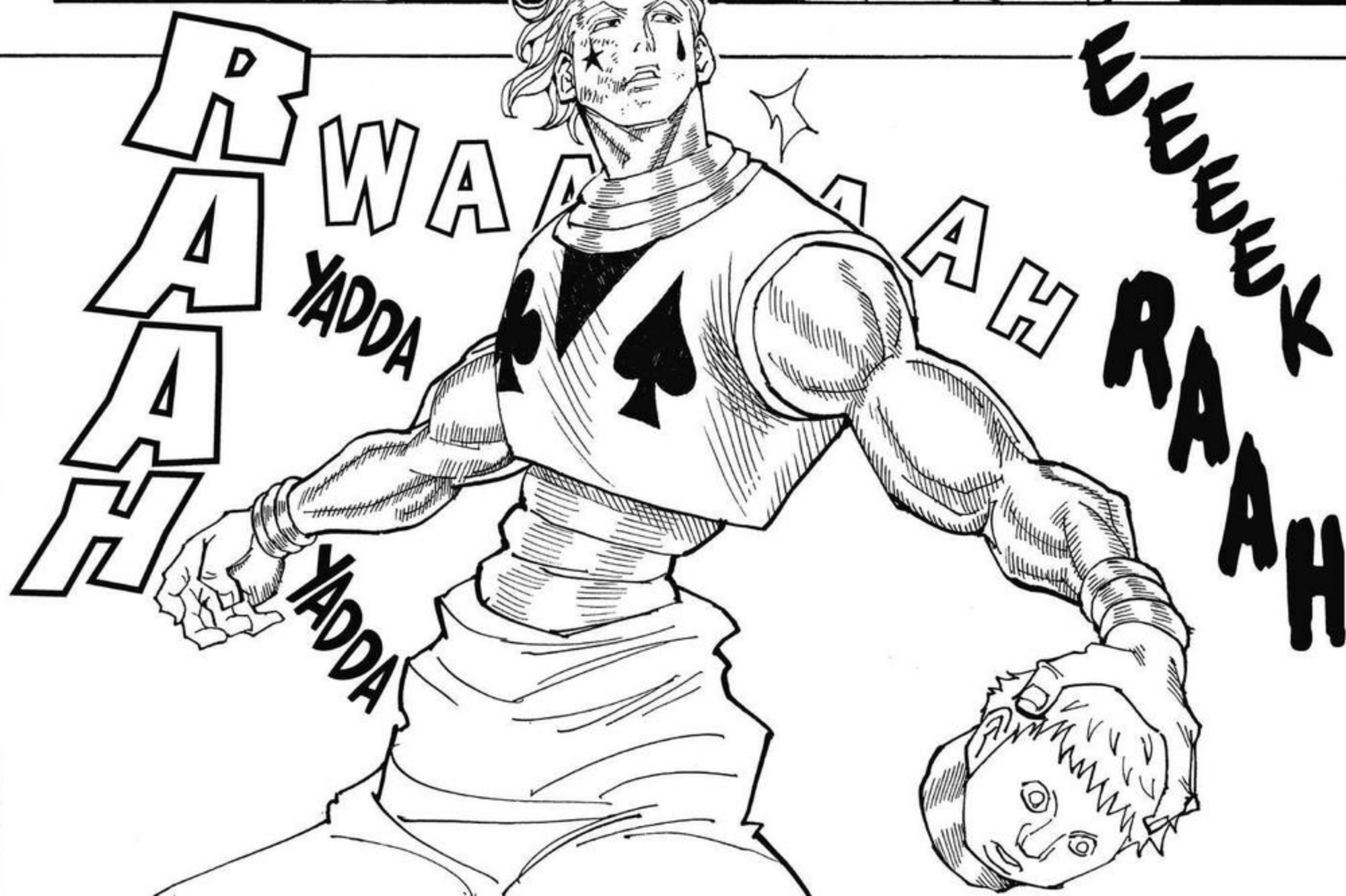
...I CAN'T
LET THE
PUPPETS
CLOSE IN
ON ME...

NO MATTER
HOW MANY
THERE
ARE...



HE'LL MAKE
EXPLOSIVE
PUPPETS
WITH THE SUN
AND MOON
AT MAXIMUM
POWER AND TRY
TO DETONATE
THEM AT CLOSE
RANGE...!

THIS NEXT
ATTACK
WILL BE
THE REAL
THING...



R

W

A

YADDA

A

E E E E K

R

A H

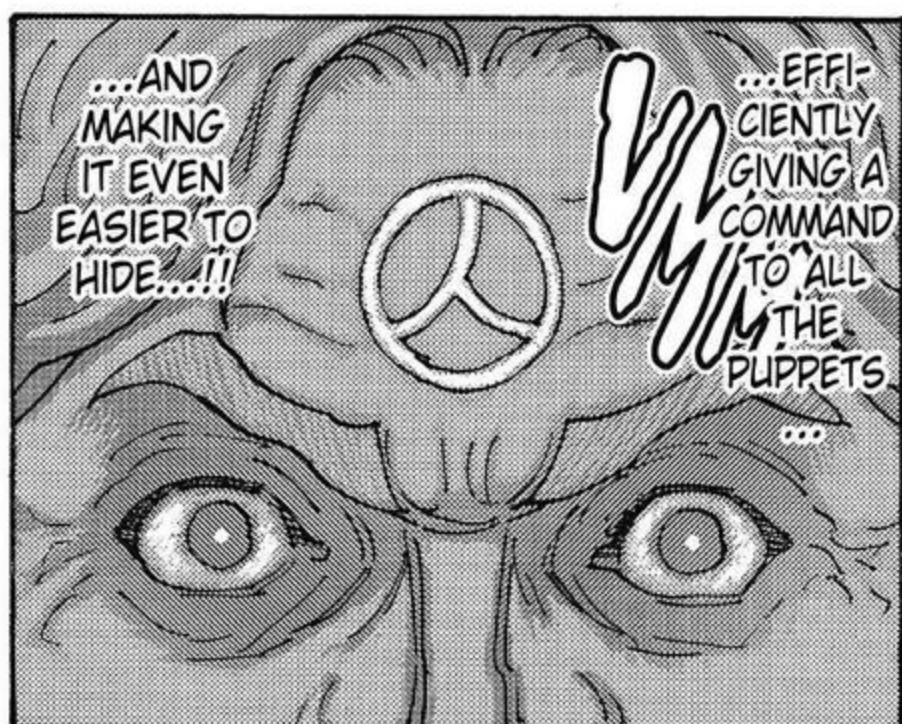
YADDA



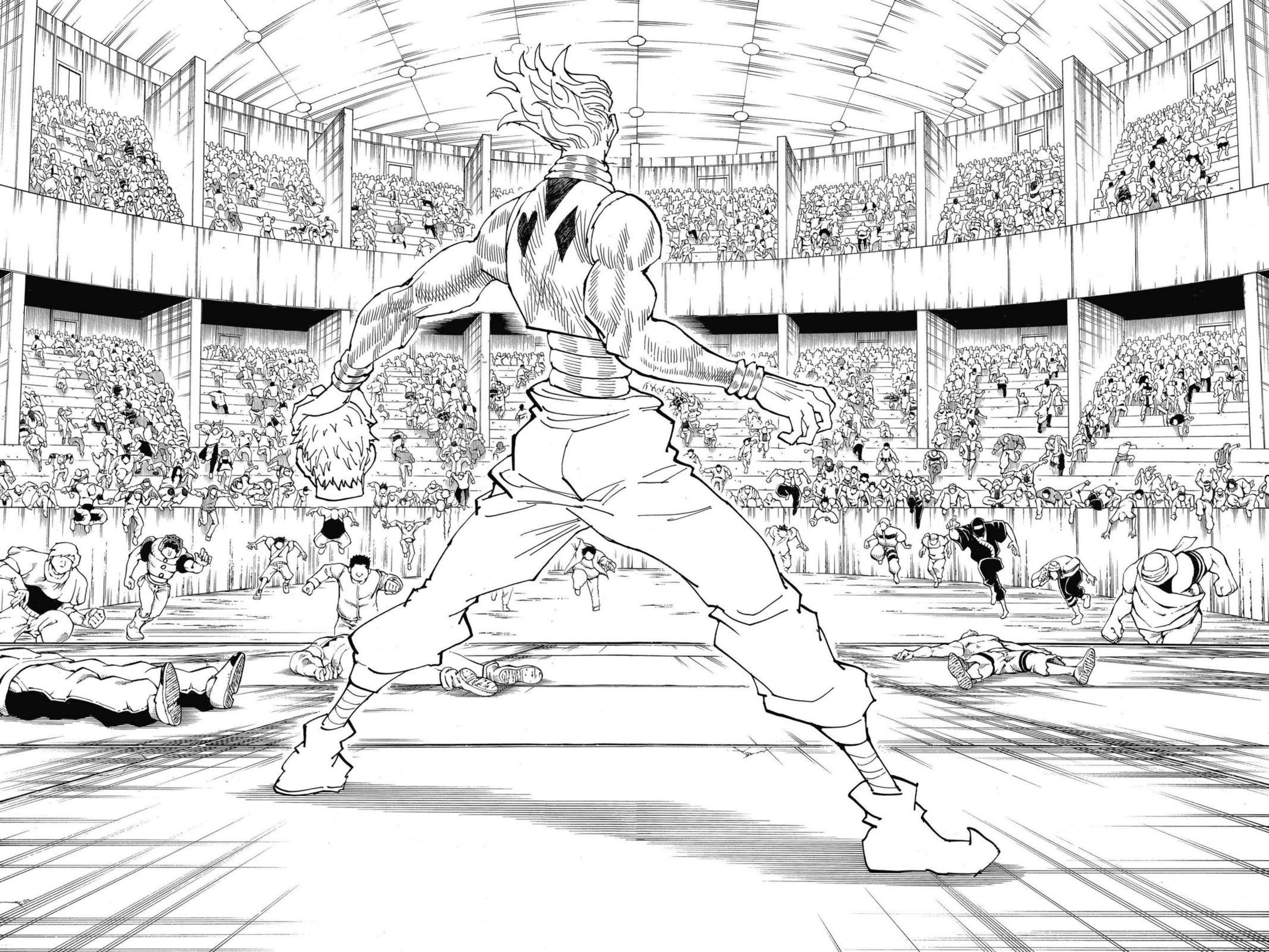
IS HE
SETTING UP
SOMETHING
ELSE IN THIS
CHAOS...?



HE'S
SENDING THE
PUPPETS ON A
RAMPAGE TO
CONFUSE THE
CROWD...!!

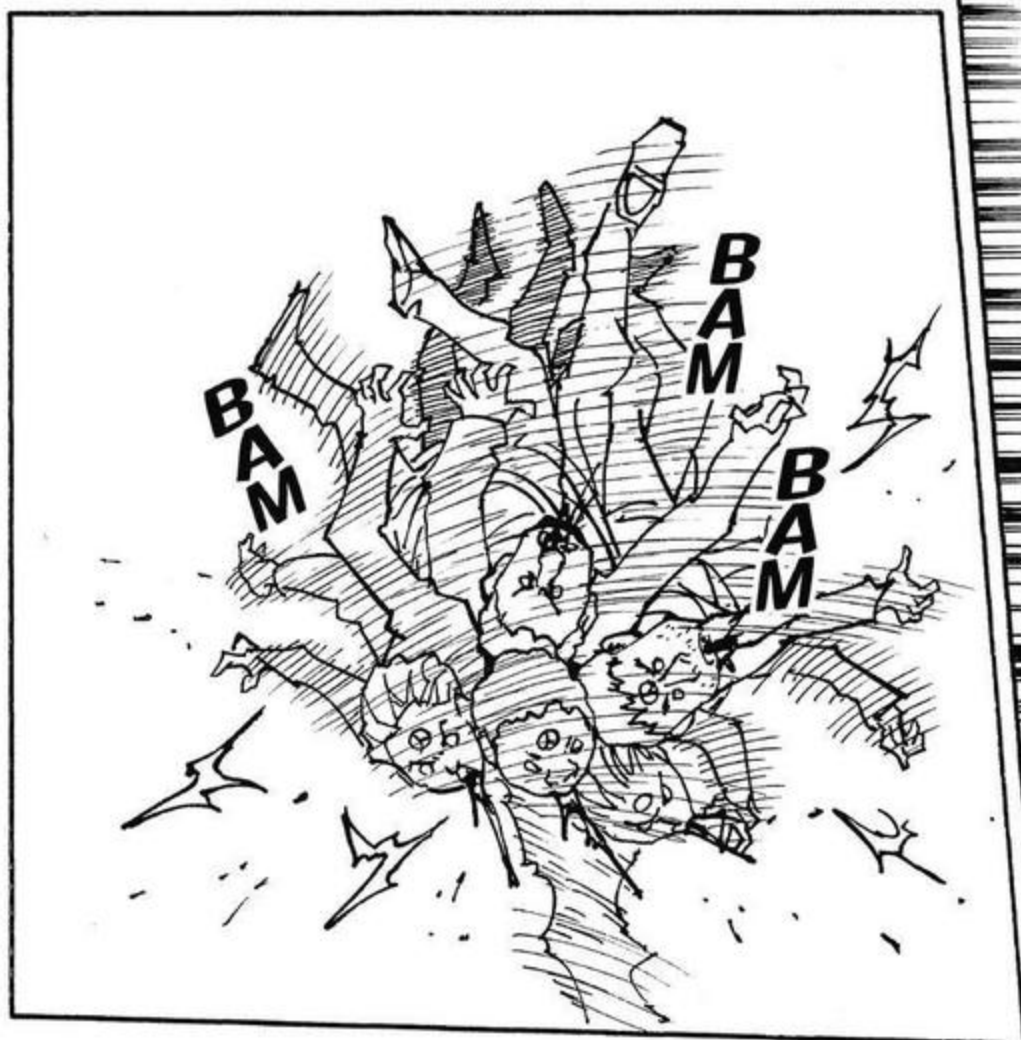








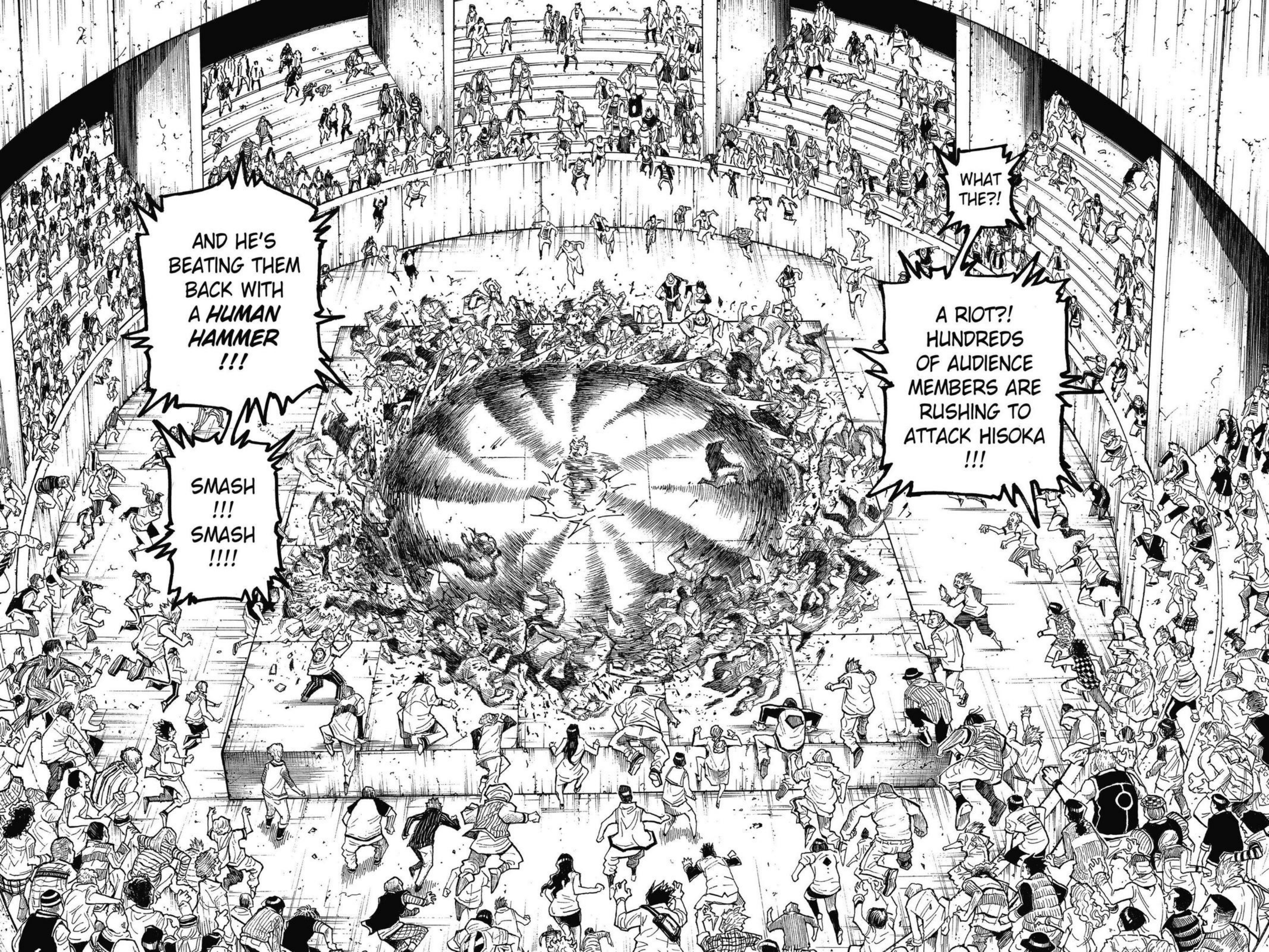






KABLAM

SLAMS MAS H

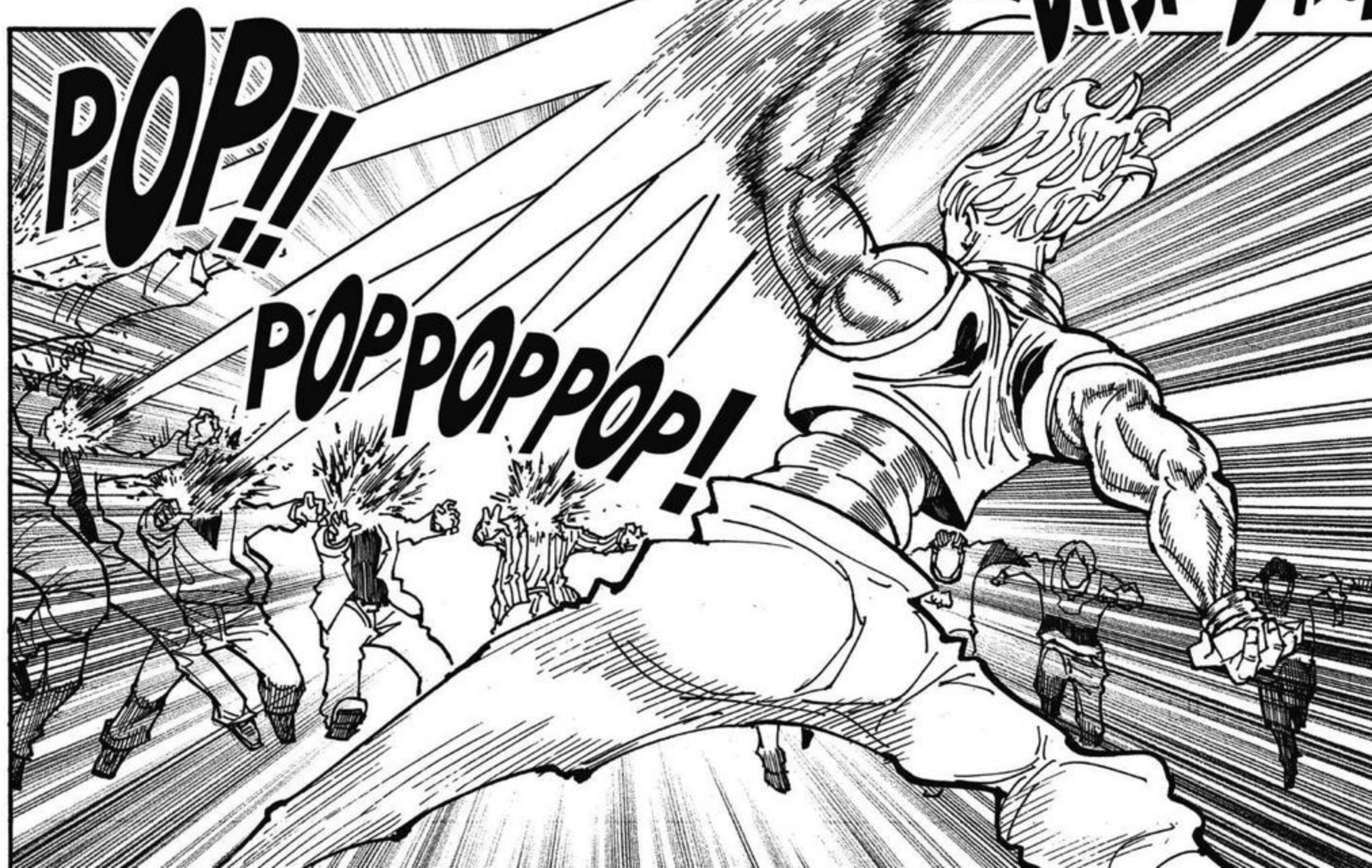


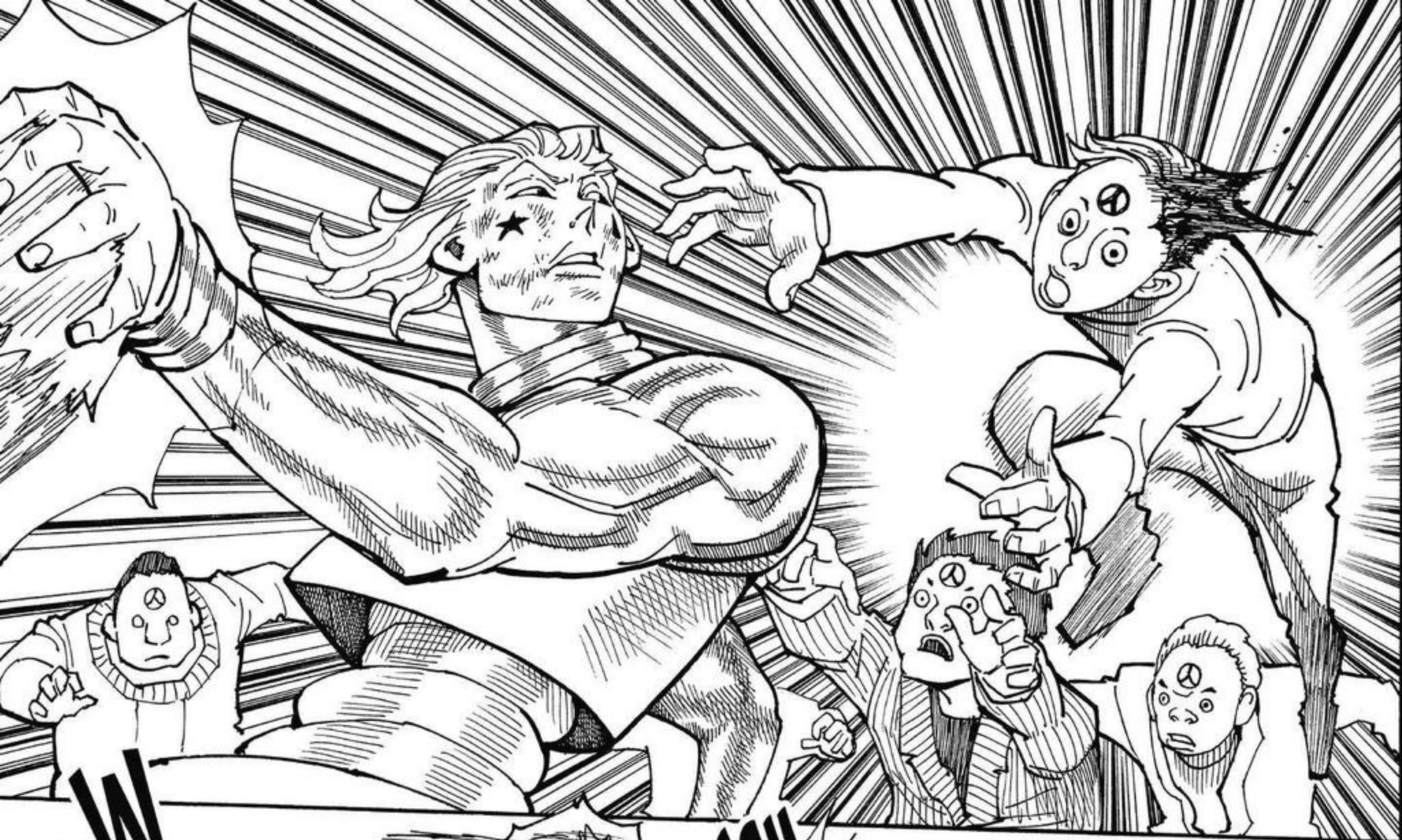
AND HE'S
BEATING THEM
BACK WITH
A HUMAN
HAMMER
!!!

SMASH
!!!
SMASH
!!!!

WHAT
THE?!

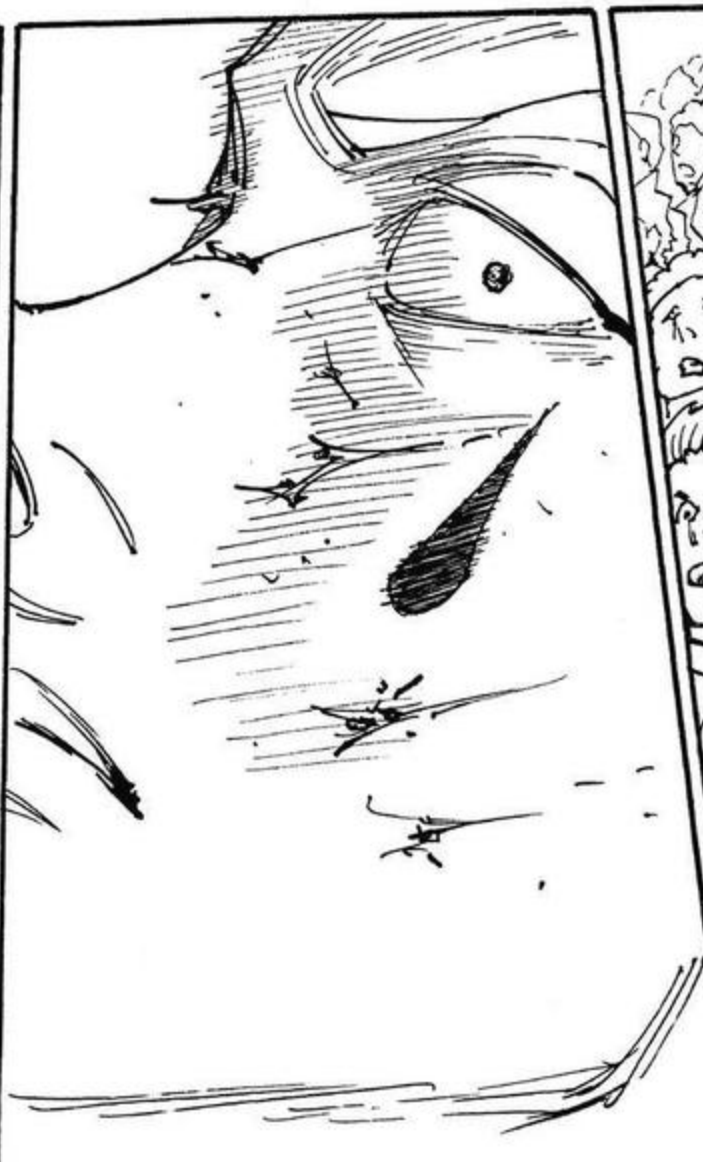
A RIOT?!
HUNDREDS
OF AUDIENCE
MEMBERS ARE
RUSHING TO
ATTACK HISOKA
!!!







BOOM



MATSUNAGA'S
POSE AND HER
SMILE WHEN
SHE HITS A
STRIKE MAKE
MY DAY.

YESSS,
STRIKE

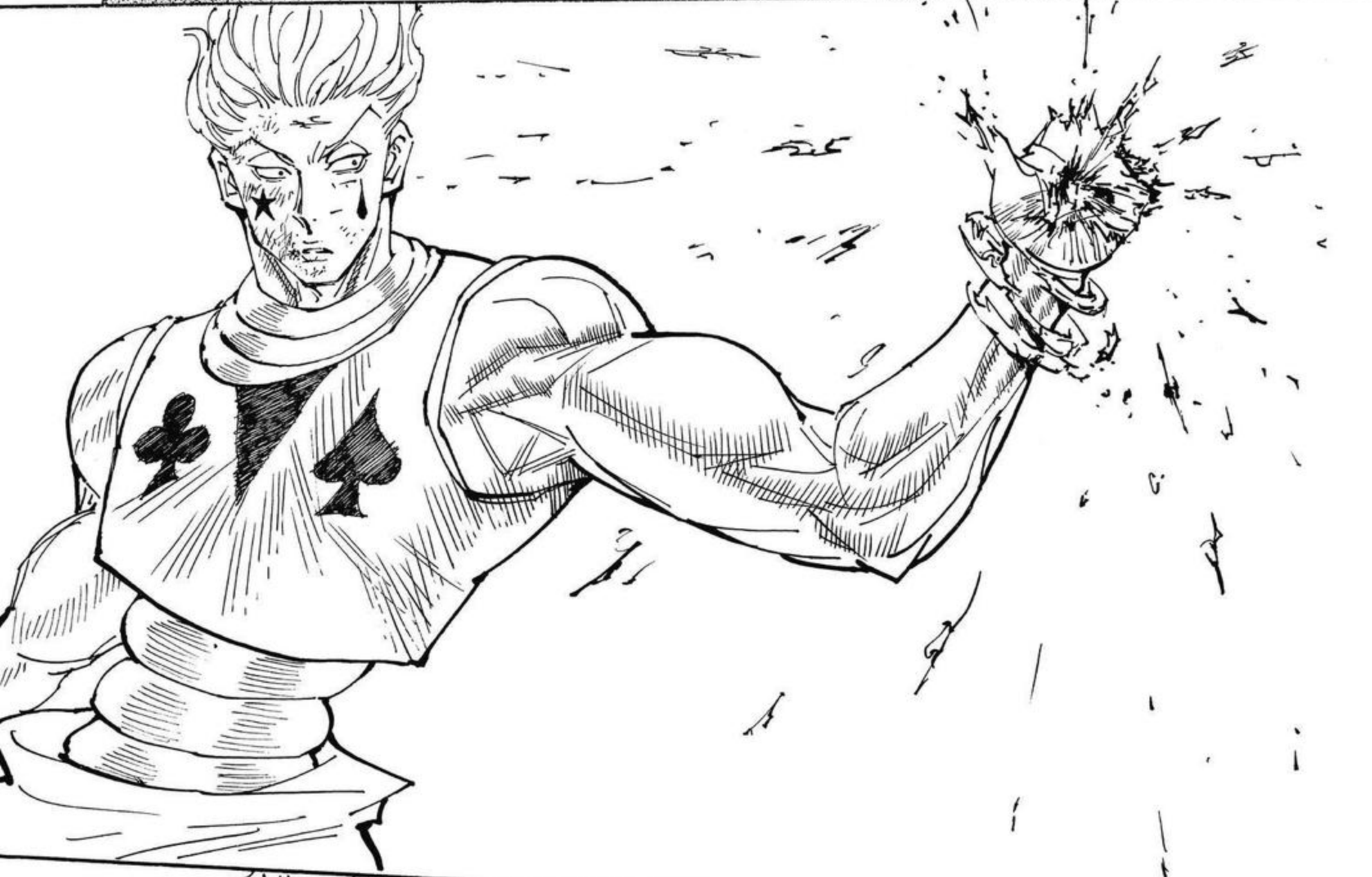
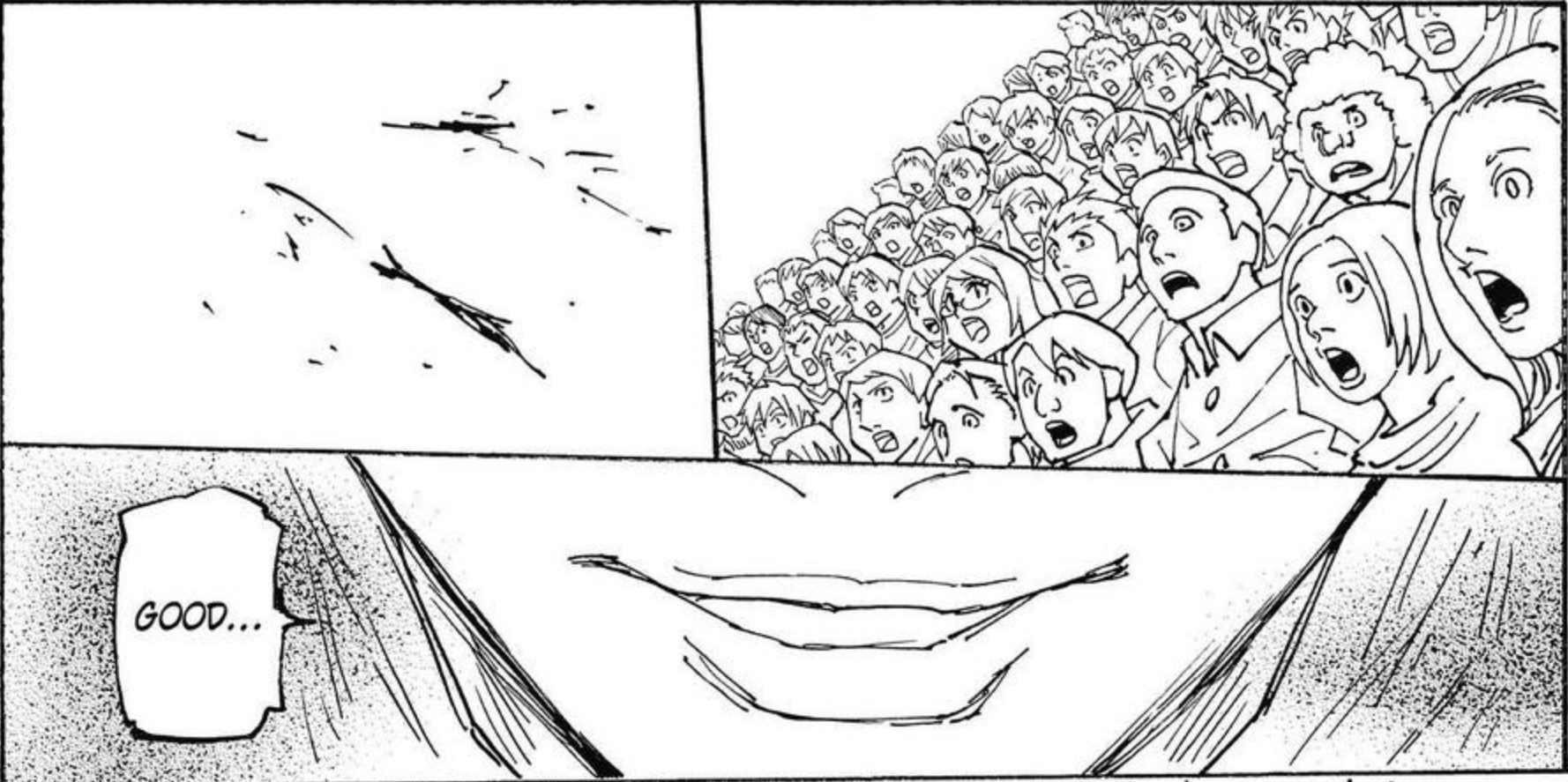
!!

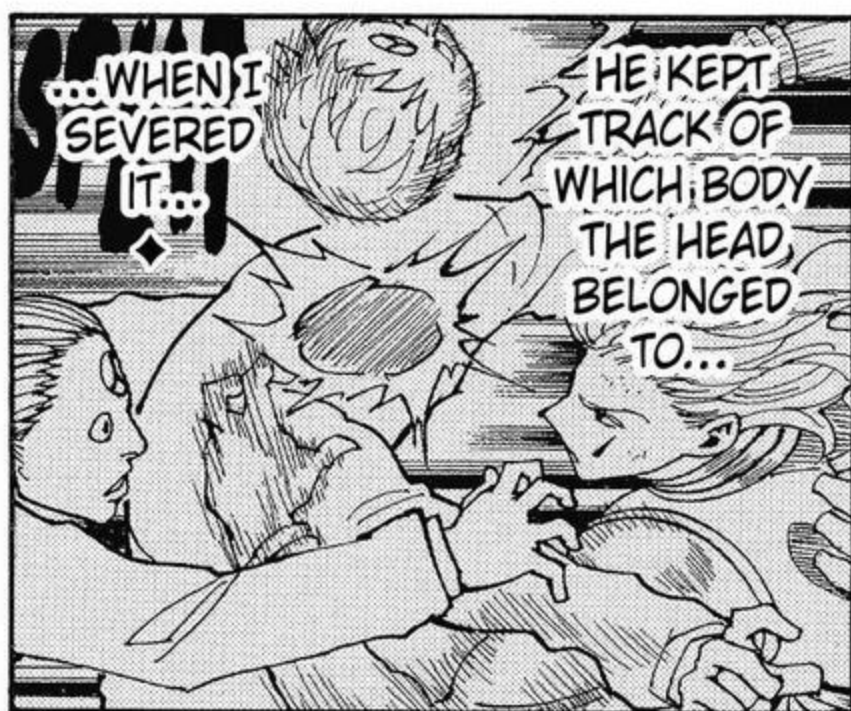


NOW I JUST
WATCH THE P-LEAGUE,
THE WOMEN'S
TOURNAMENT.
I ESPECIALLY LIKE
PROFESSIONAL
PLAYERS TERASHITA
AND TSURUI.



Chapter 356: Unfortunate: Part 1





...RUMINATING
OVER YOUR
STRATEGY...



I WON'T BE
ABLE TO
TAKE MY
TIME...

IT'S UN-
FORTUNATE...



...ELEVENTH
HOUR!!

FWISH

THIS
IS THE
REAL...

TUG!

SHRINK
!!

**SP
LAT**

SNAP

GLOM



I STILL
HAVE
MY
LEGS.
♥

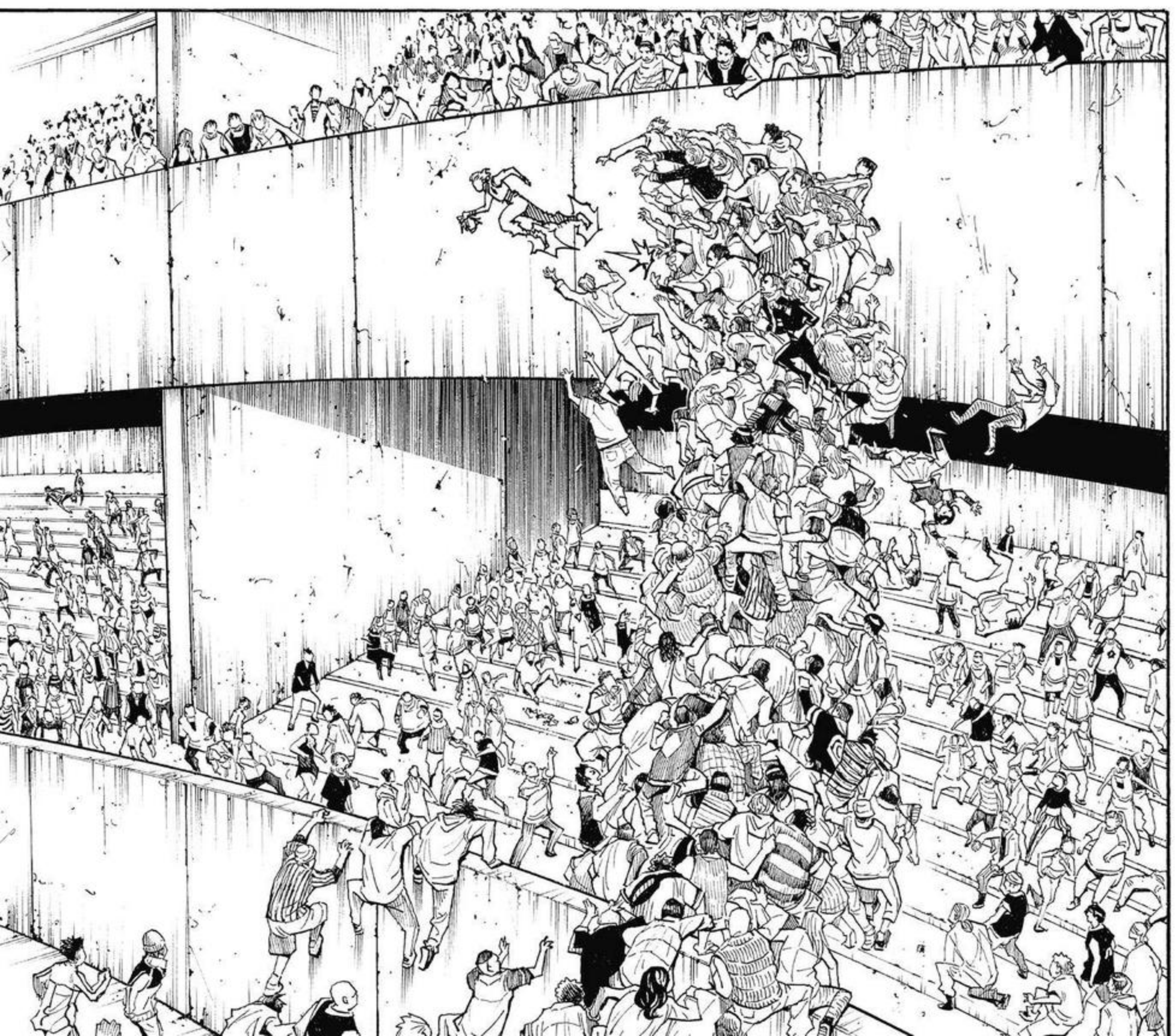


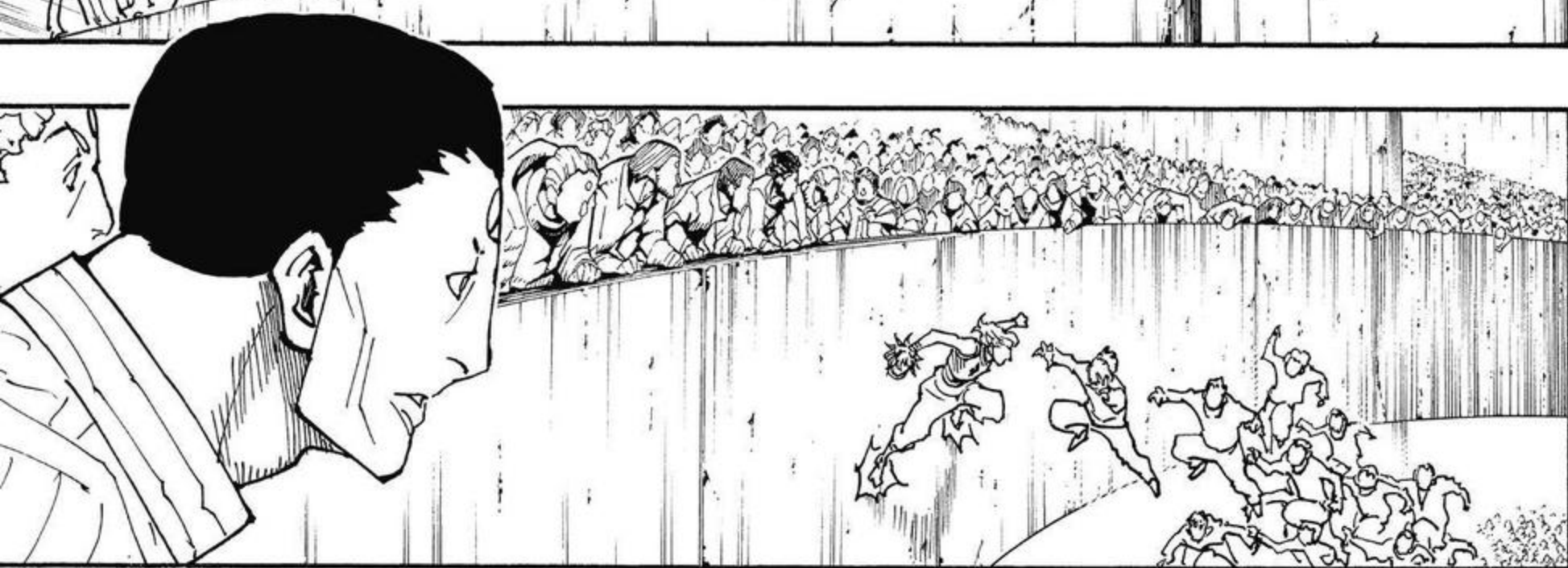
BUT...

MY LEFT HAND
WON'T BE ABLE TO
MAKE PRECISE NEN
MANIPULATIONS...!
♠



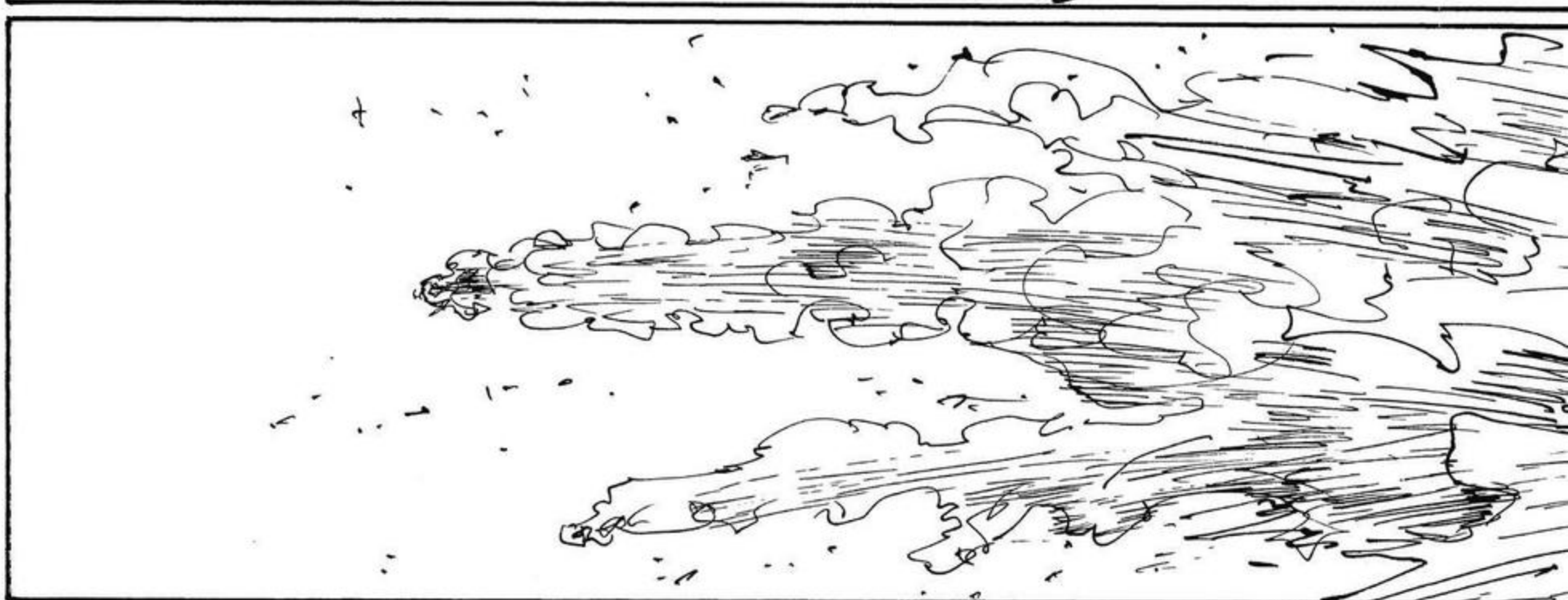
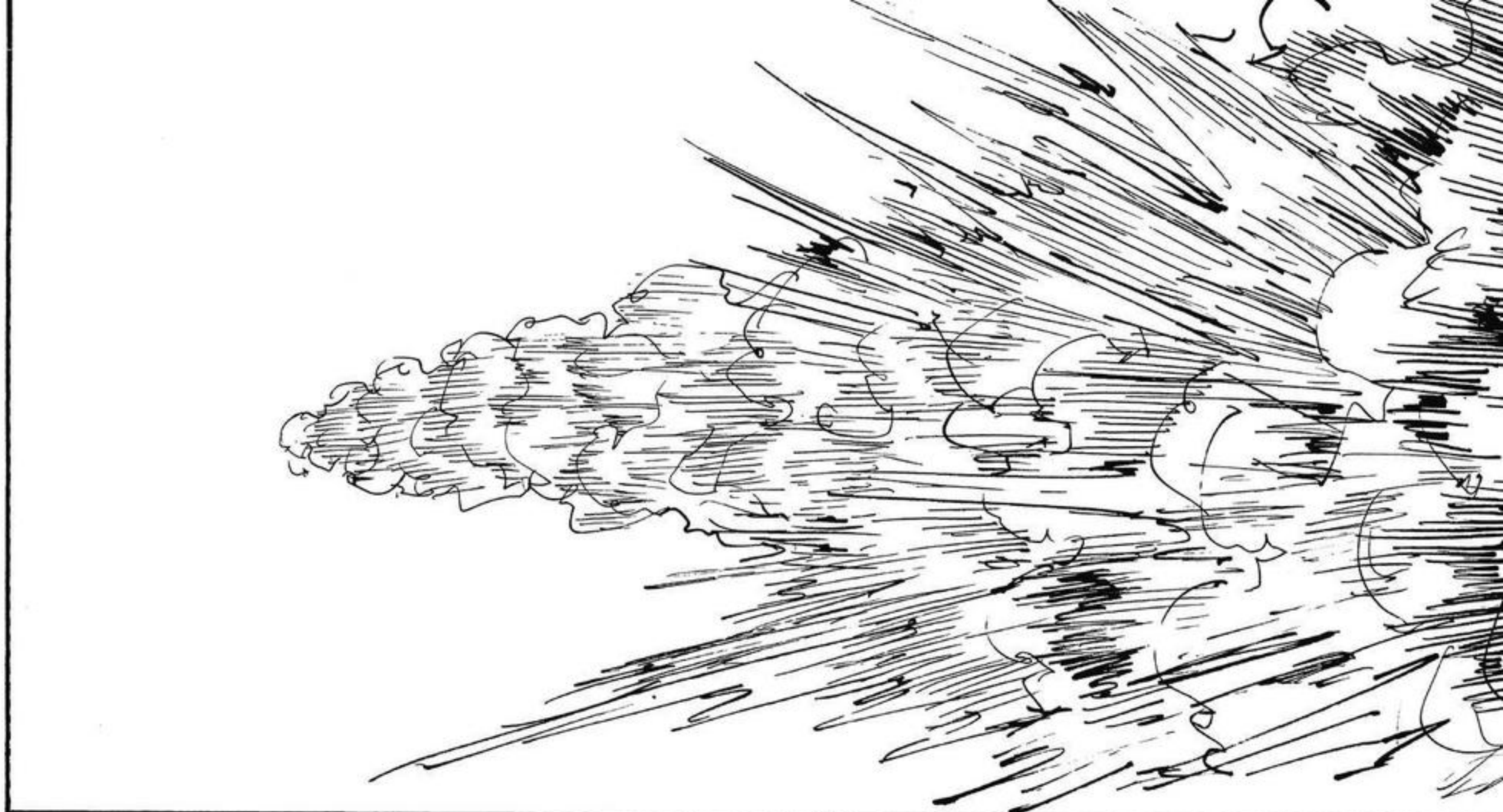


















WELL,
FINE...
♣



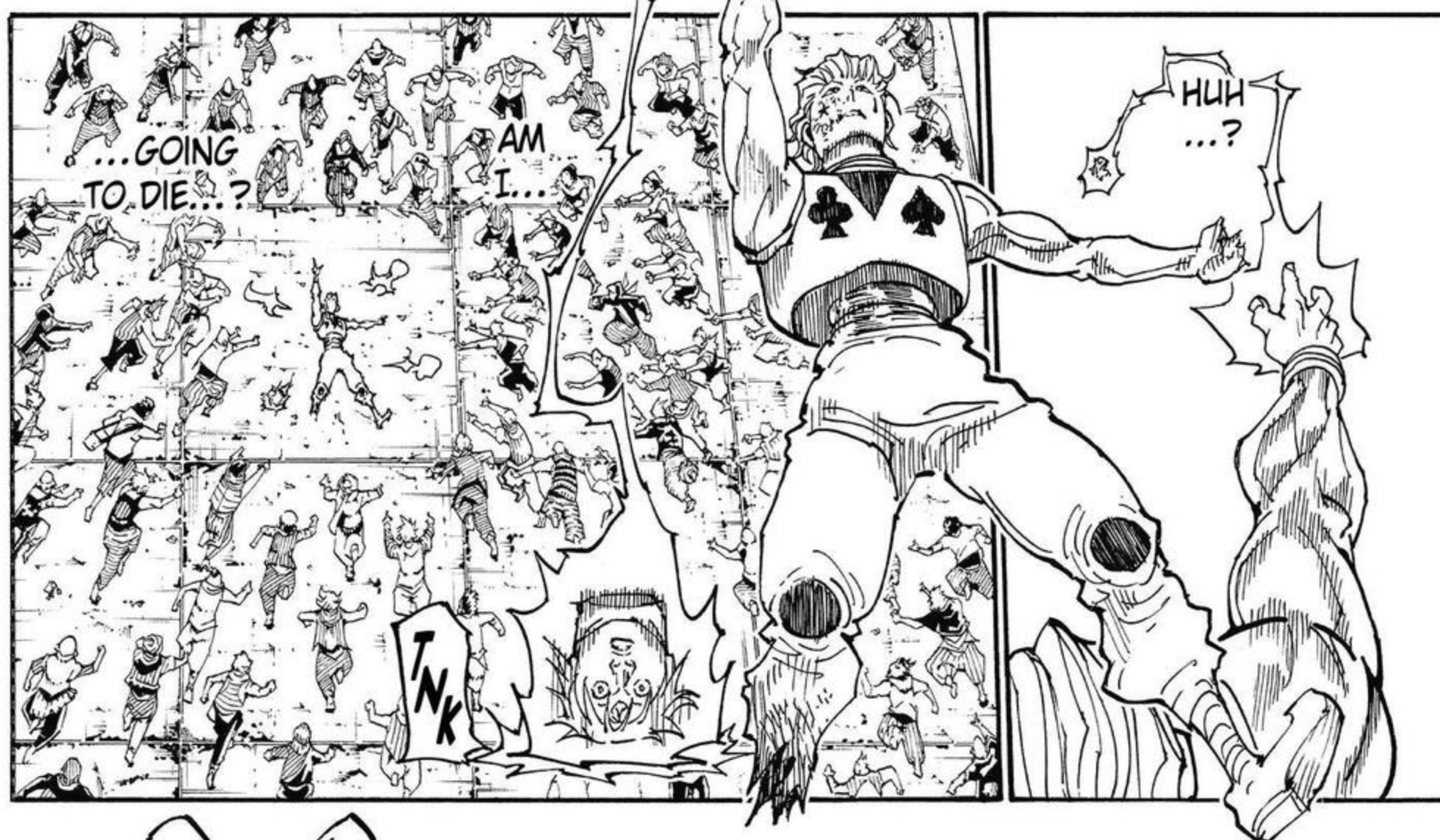
...MY
LEFT
LEG
...!!



THEN...









RAAH
AAH

IF I'M
GOING
TO DIE
ANY-
WAY...

...THEN...



BOOM BOOM

BOOM BOOM

MATIY

KOHIMATIYNEIT

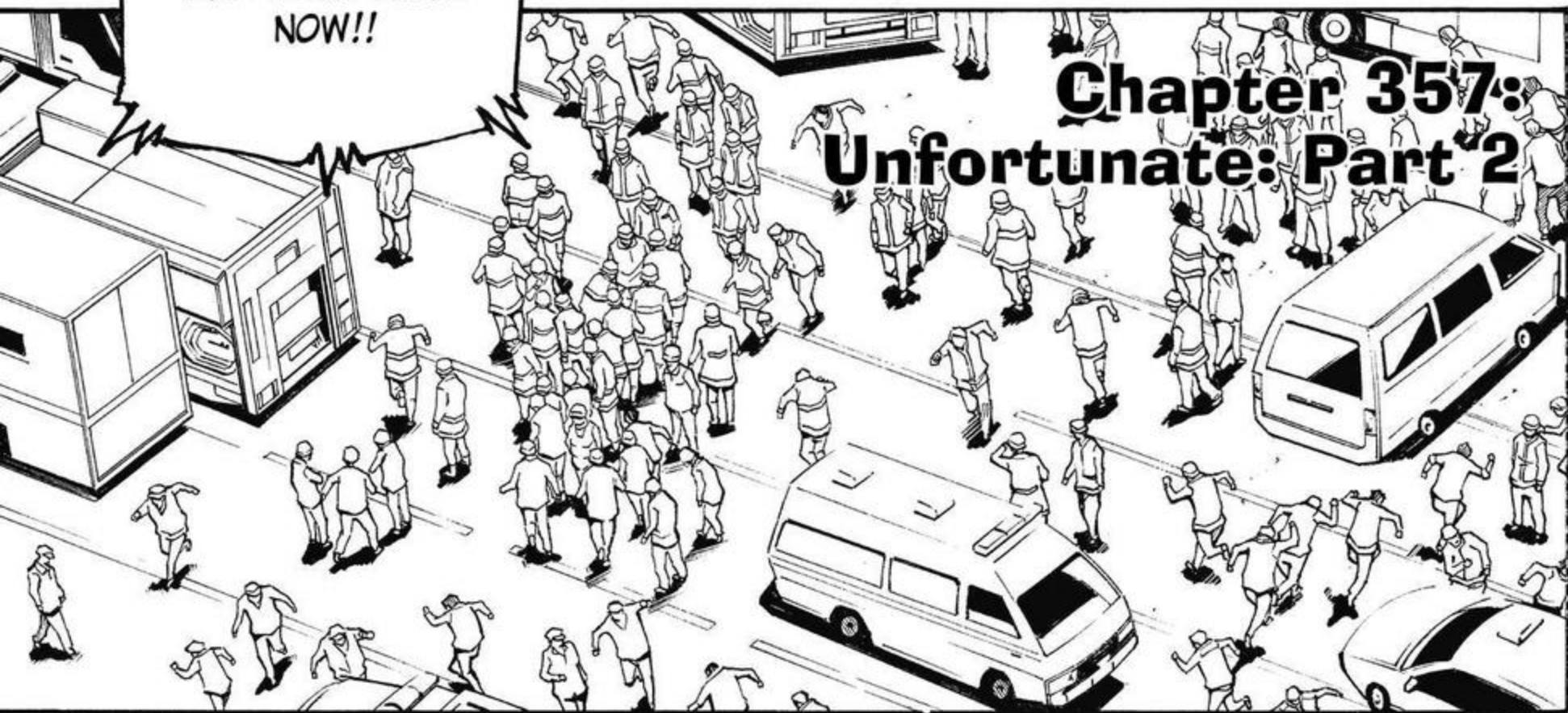




WE ARE A FEW
BLOCKS AWAY
FROM HEAVENS
ARENA WHERE
THERE WAS A
LARGE EXPLOSION
MOMENTS AGO!!

THERE'S A SLEW
OF FIRE TRUCKS
AND AMBULANCES
ON-SITE, AND IT
LOOKS LIKE A
WAR ZONE RIGHT
NOW!!

Chapter 357: Unfortunate: Part 2





AN INVESTIGATION IS TAKING PLACE ALONG WITH THE RESCUE EFFORT!!

ONE OF THE COMBATANTS IS THOUGHT TO HAVE USED A BOMB!!

AT THE TIME OF THE EXPLOSION, THERE WAS A FLOOR MASTER BATTLE WITH A MEMBERS-ONLY AUDIENCE!!



IT WILL TAKE SOME TIME BEFORE WE KNOW EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED!!

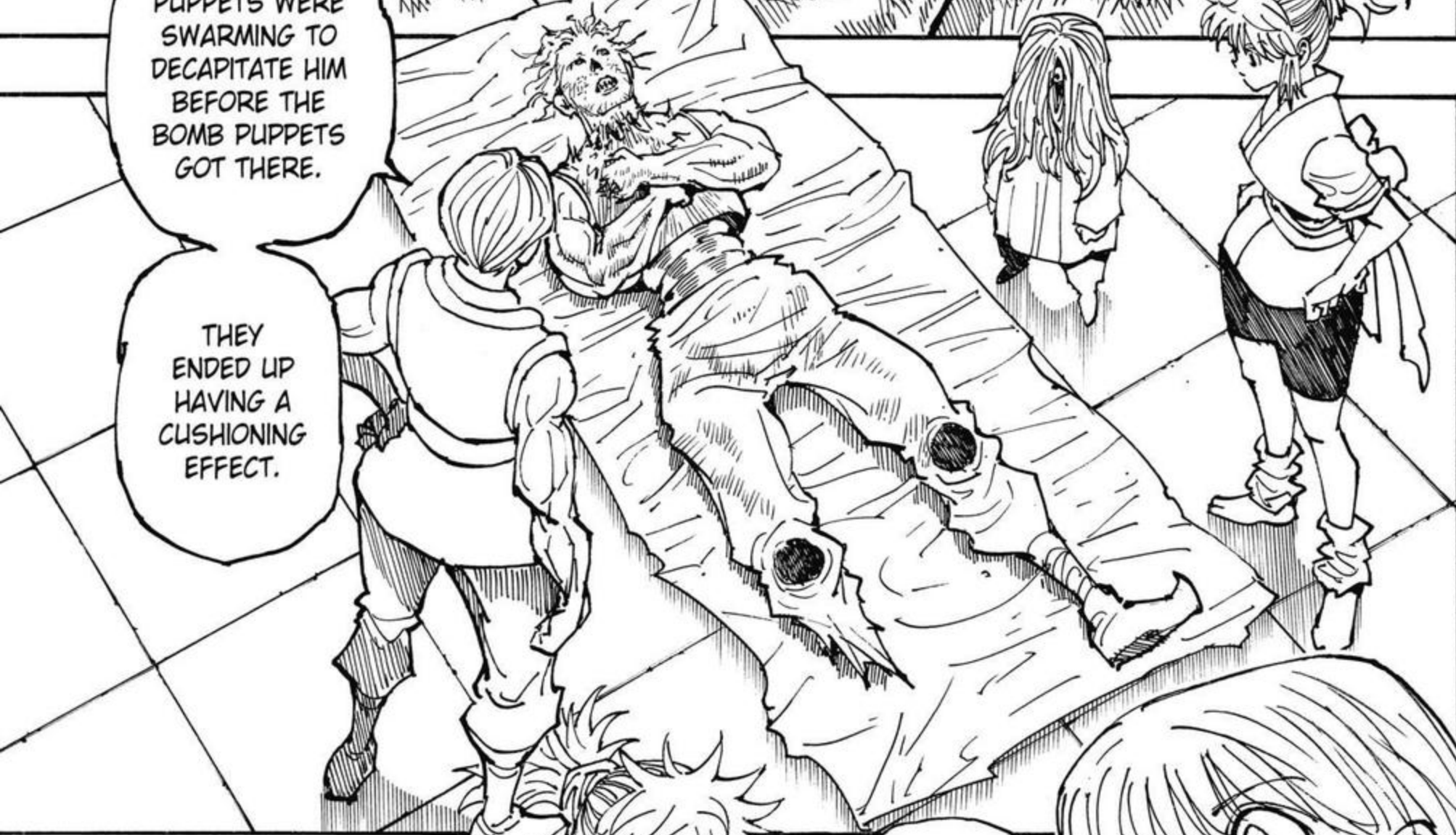
THERE WERE MULTIPLE CASUALTIES IN THIS MATCH, INCLUDING HISOKA, ONE OF THE COMBATANTS!!



HE DOESN'T
LOOK AS
BAD AS I
EXPECTED.

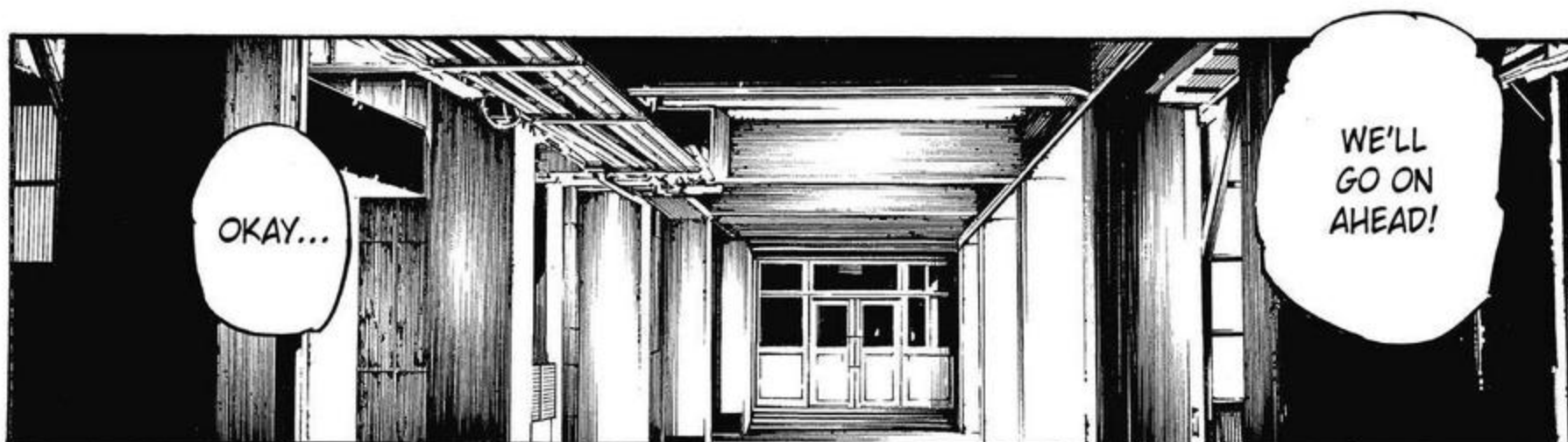
ABOUT 200
PUPPETS WERE
SWARMING TO
DECAPITATE HIM
BEFORE THE
BOMB PUPPETS
GOT THERE.

THEY
ENDED UP
HAVING A
CUSHIONING
EFFECT.



THE CAUSE OF
DEATH SEEMS TO
BE SUFFOCATION
FROM LACK OF
OXYGEN DUE TO
BOTH THE BLAST
AND THE MASS
OF FLESH.







THANKS FOR
HELPING TO
EXORCISE
CHROLLO...



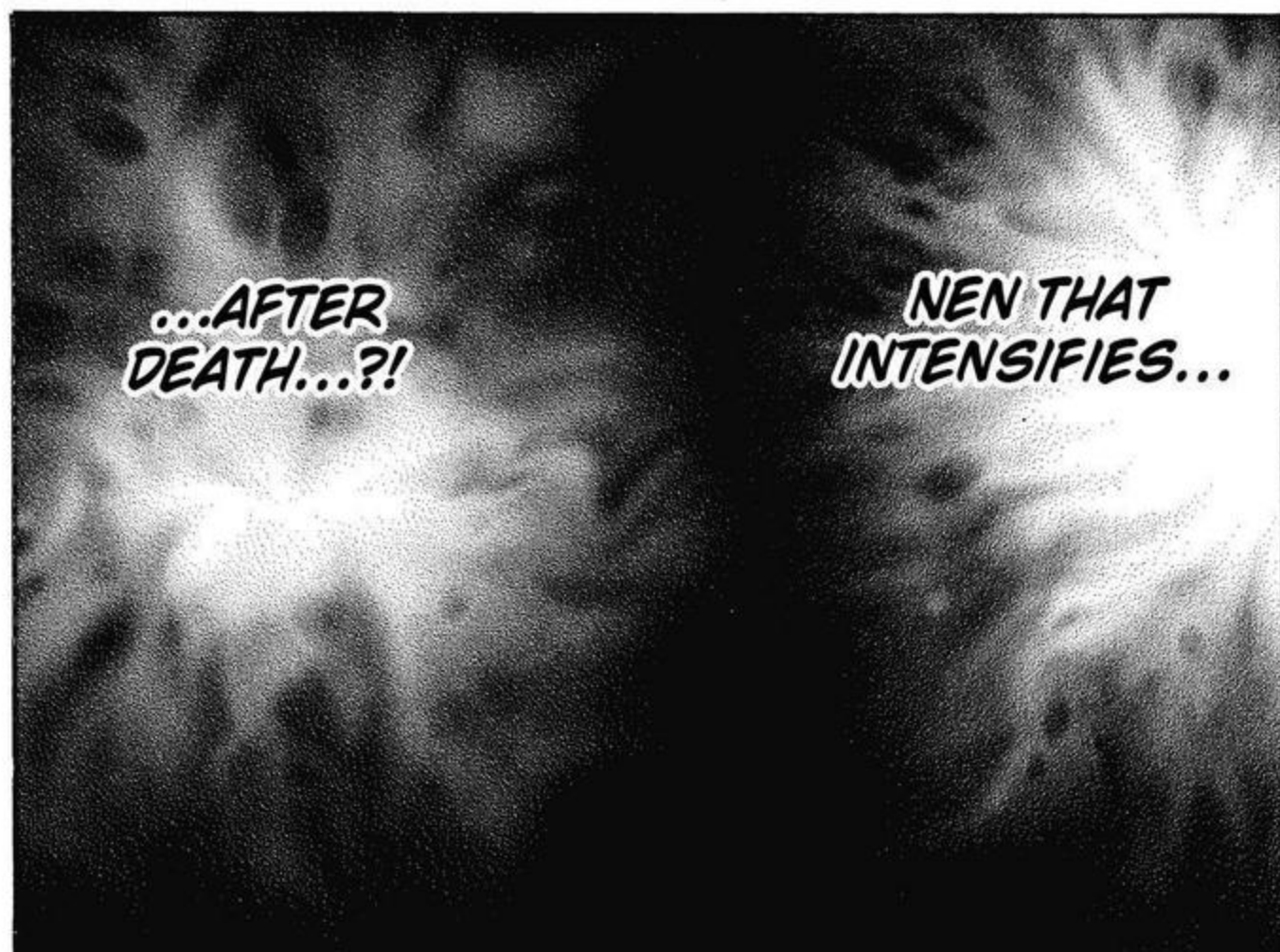
THERE'S
A LOT OF
DAMAGE
AROUND HIS
NECK.

I'LL CLEAN
YOUR FACE
UP, TOO.

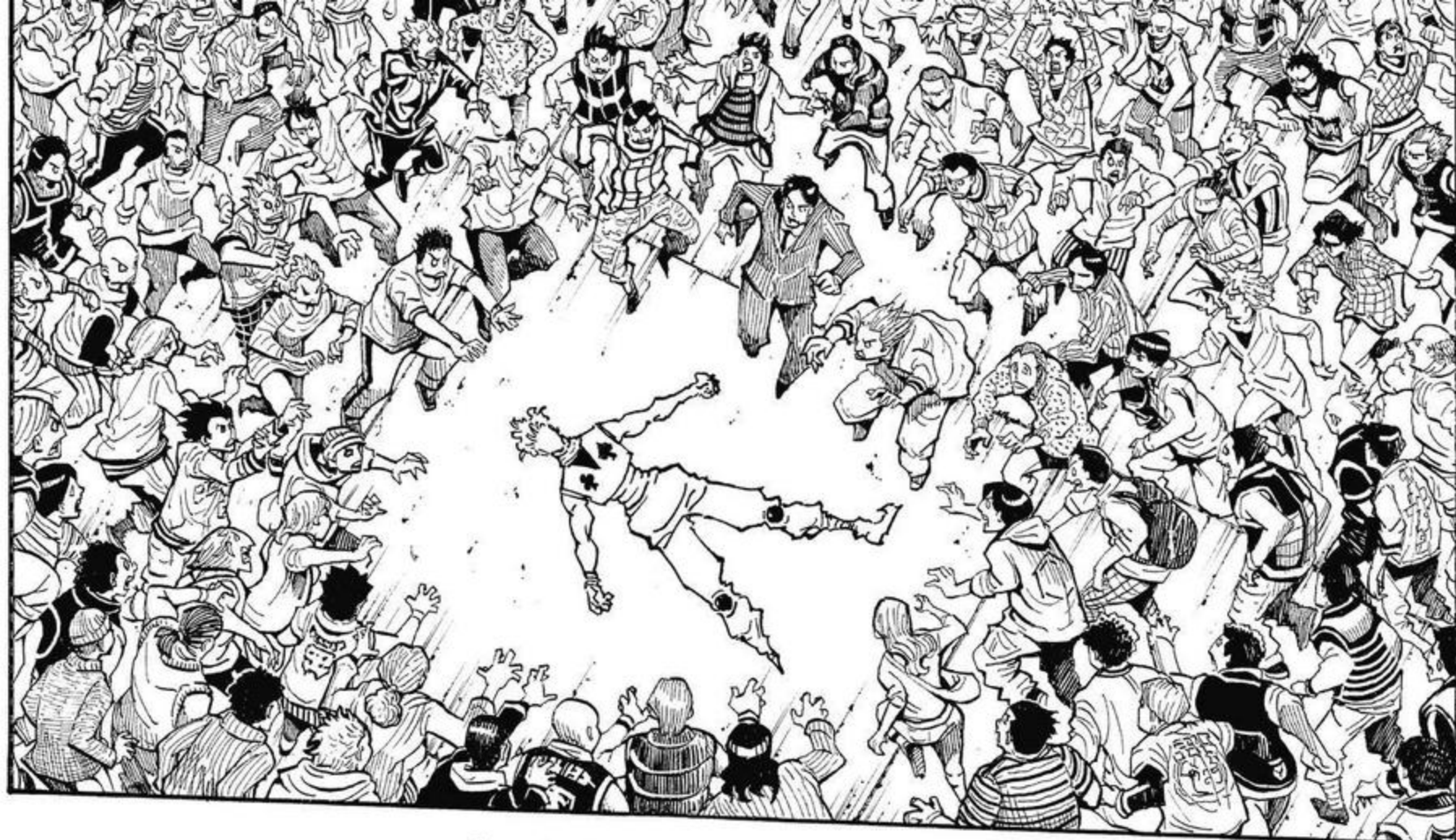


PSH





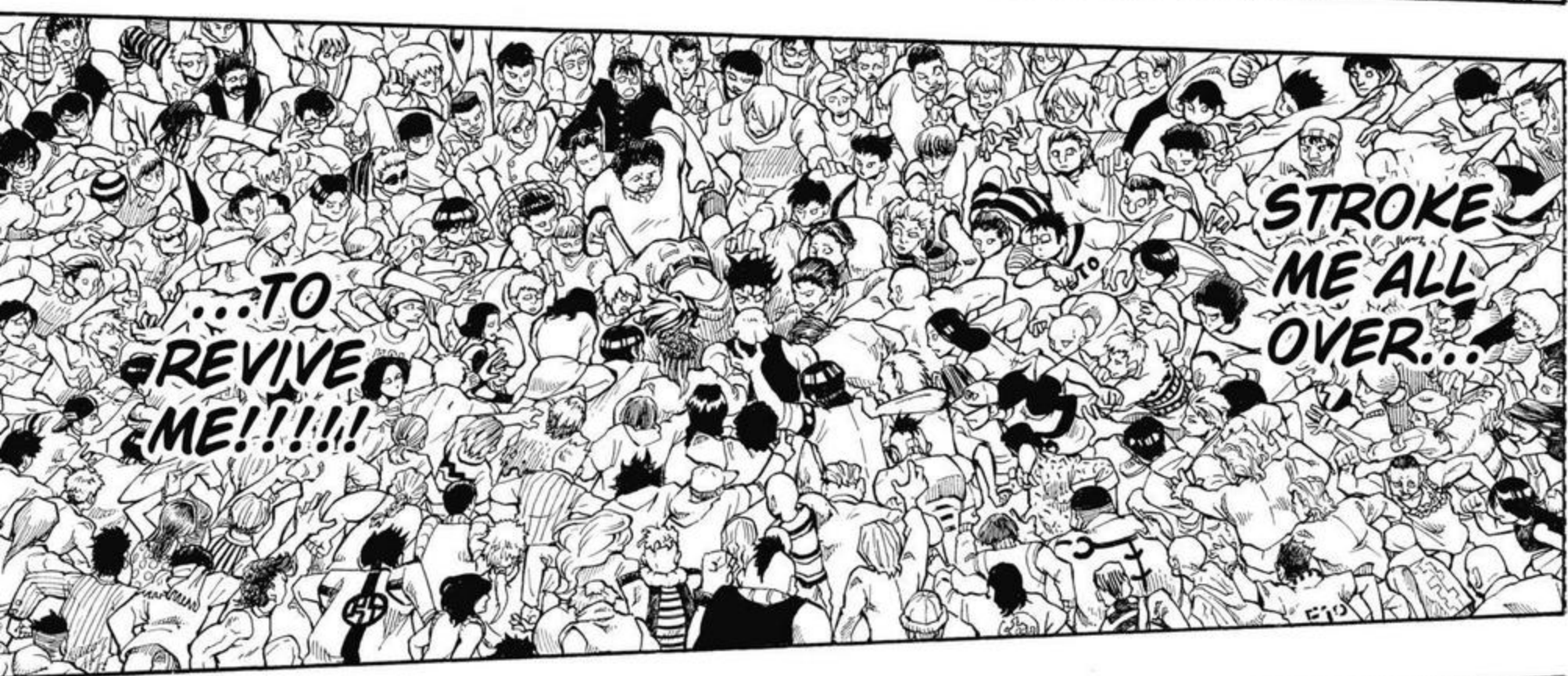




IF I'M
GOING
TO DIE
ANYWAY...
THEN I
MIGHT
AS WELL
GIVE IT
A TRY...



NEN GUM,
I BESEECH
YOU...!!!





IT'S
DIFFICULT
TO WIN
UNDER THE
OPPONENT'S
IDEAL
CONDITIONS...
♣

GEE...
FIGHTING
SOMEONE OF
CHROLLO'S
CALIBER...

...BE
SURE TO
PICK YOUR
BATTLES
NEXT TIME.

IF YOU'VE
LEARNED
YOUR
LESSON...



REALITY IS
HARSH.
☠

WITH
GUM...



NO,
I'LL BE
FINE...
♦

SIT DOWN,
I'LL STITCH
YOU UP.

...
BLOWN
OFF
IN THE
BLAST
!!

TEXTURE
SURPRISE!

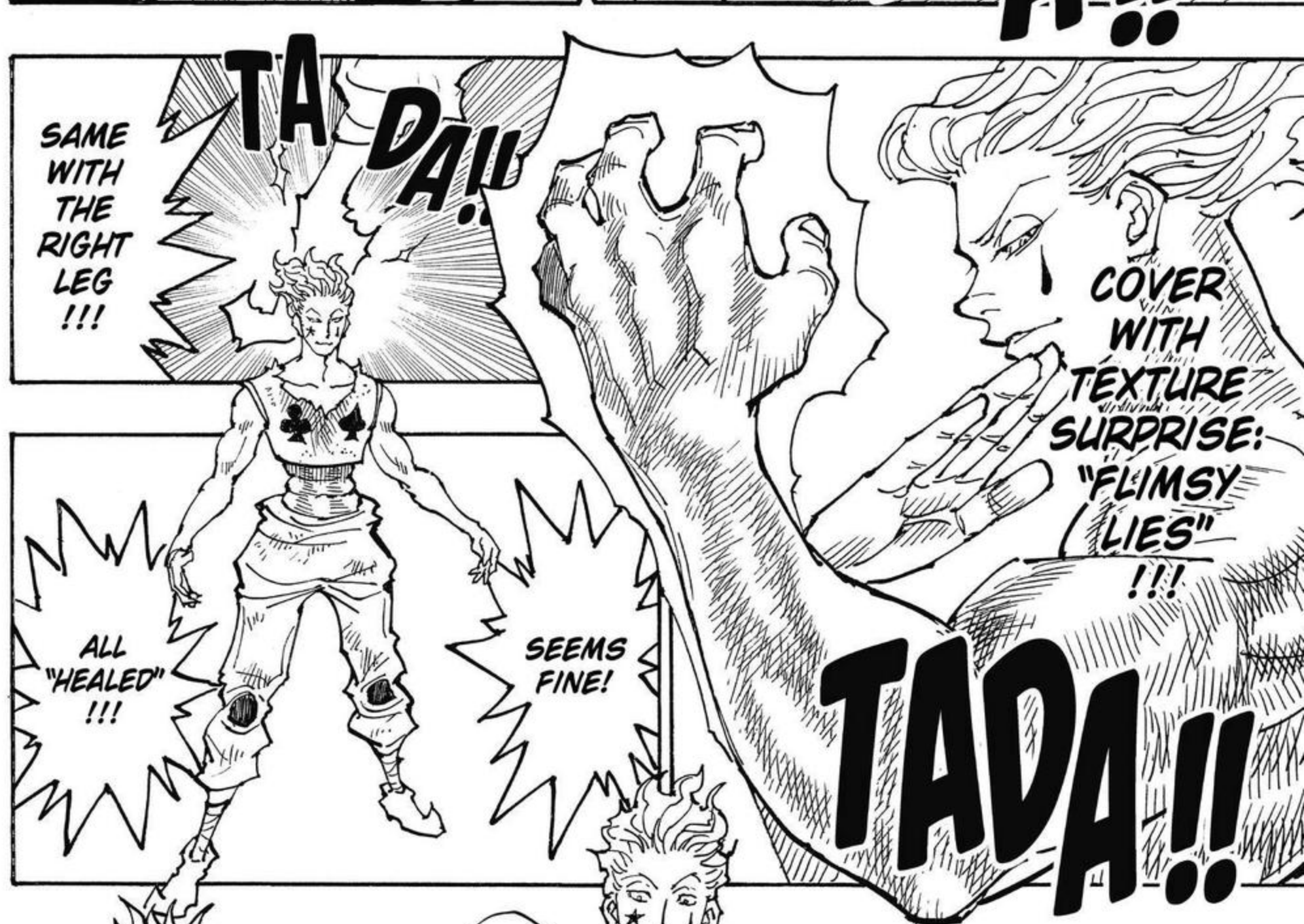
TAKE
THE
PARTS
...

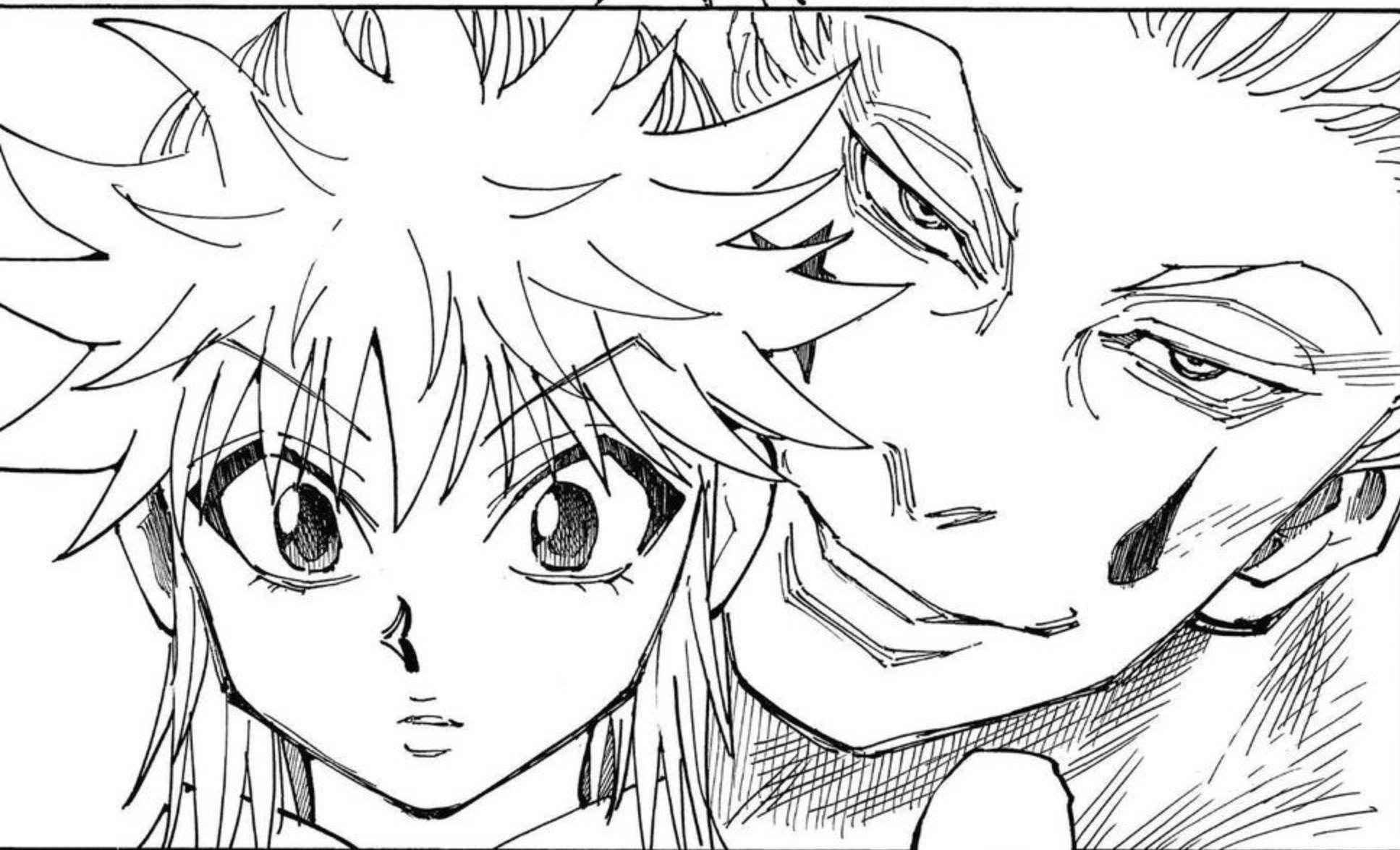


STOP THE
BLEEDING
...!!

PAT







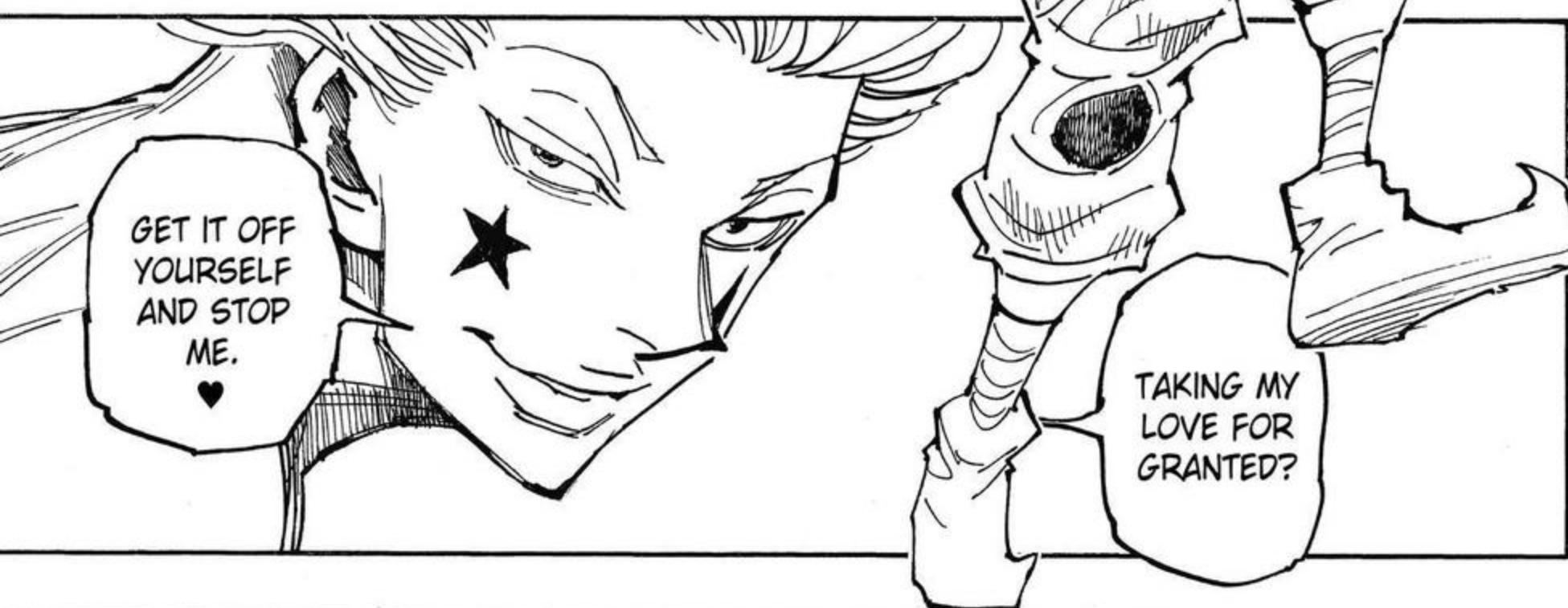


FROM NOW ON,
I'LL FIGHT ANY OF
THEM ON SIGHT
UNTIL I'VE KILLED
THEM ALL.
♥

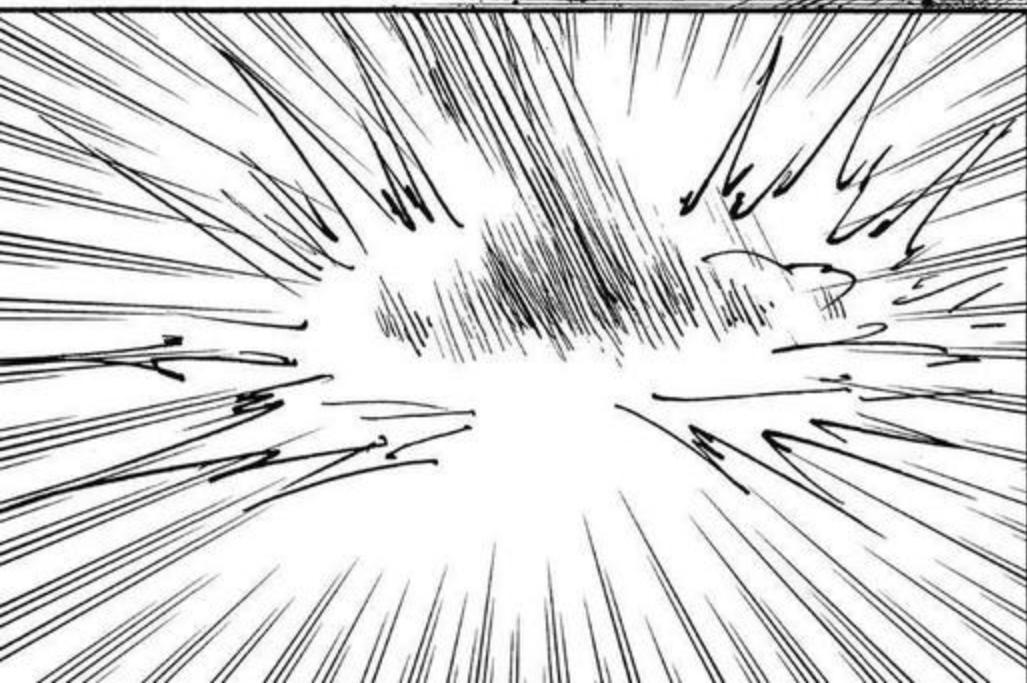
CAN YOU
TELL THE
OTHER
SPIDERS
...?

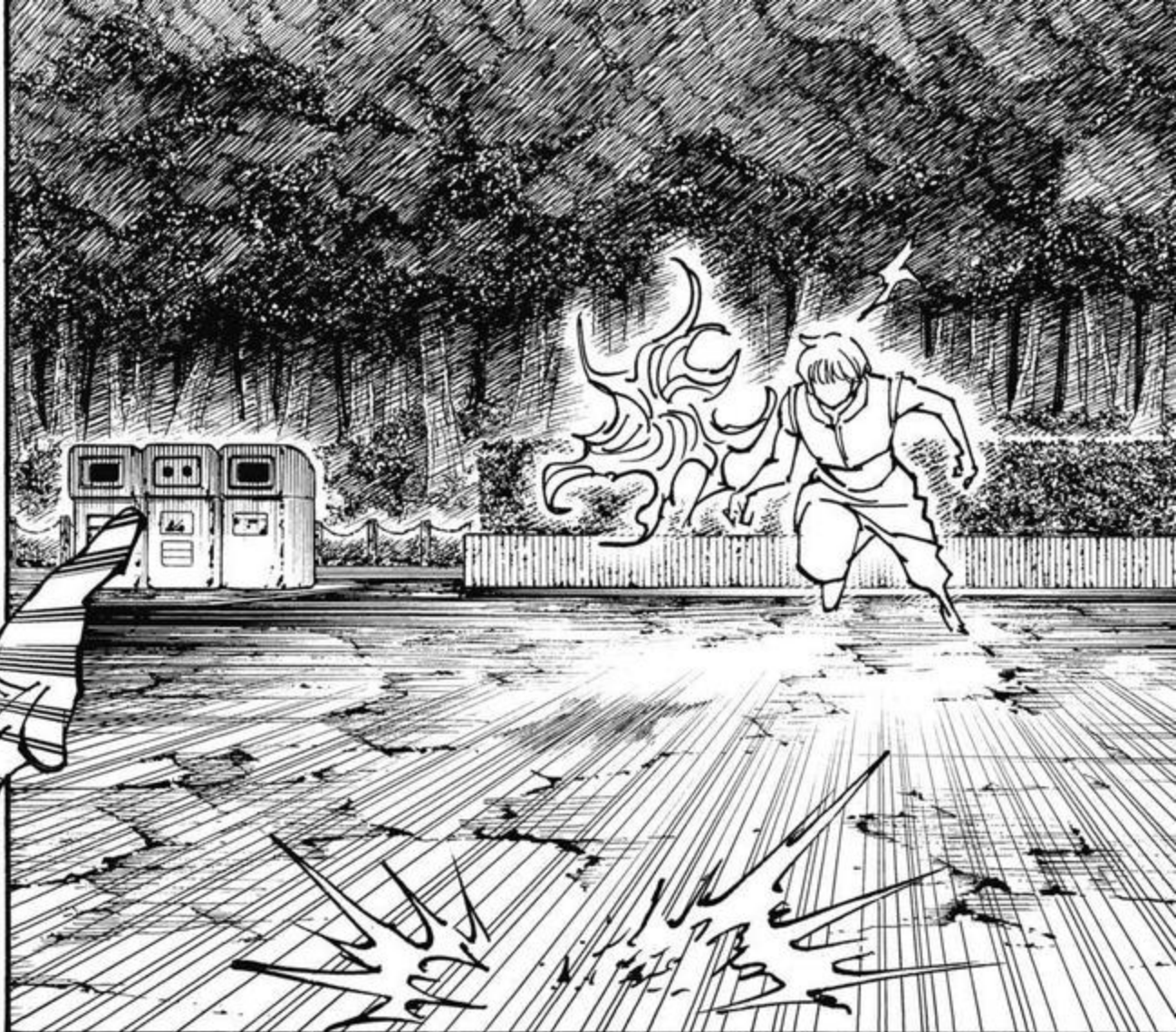
I'LL KILL
YOU RIGHT
NOW!!

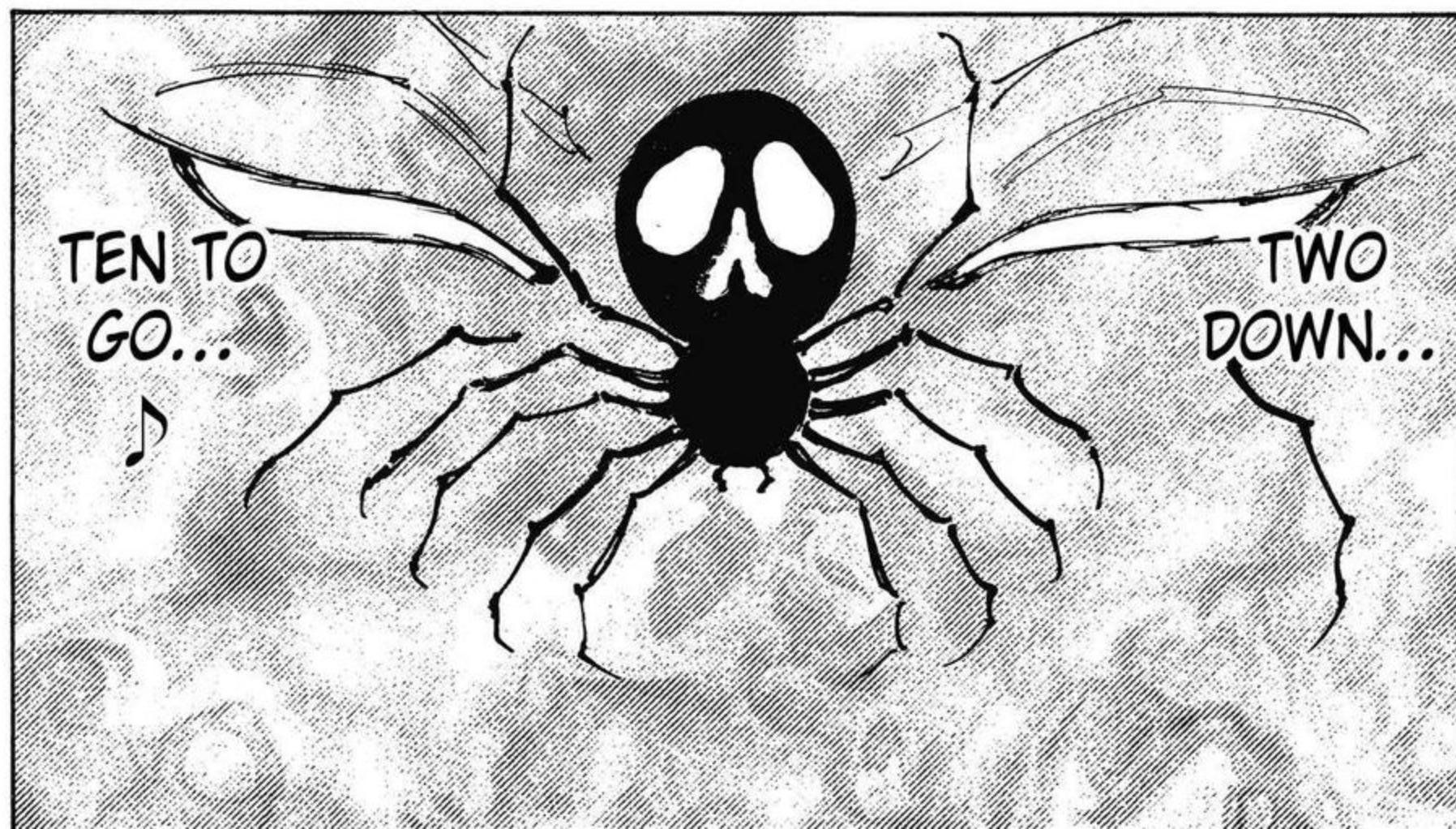
THE HELL
YOU WILL
...!!!





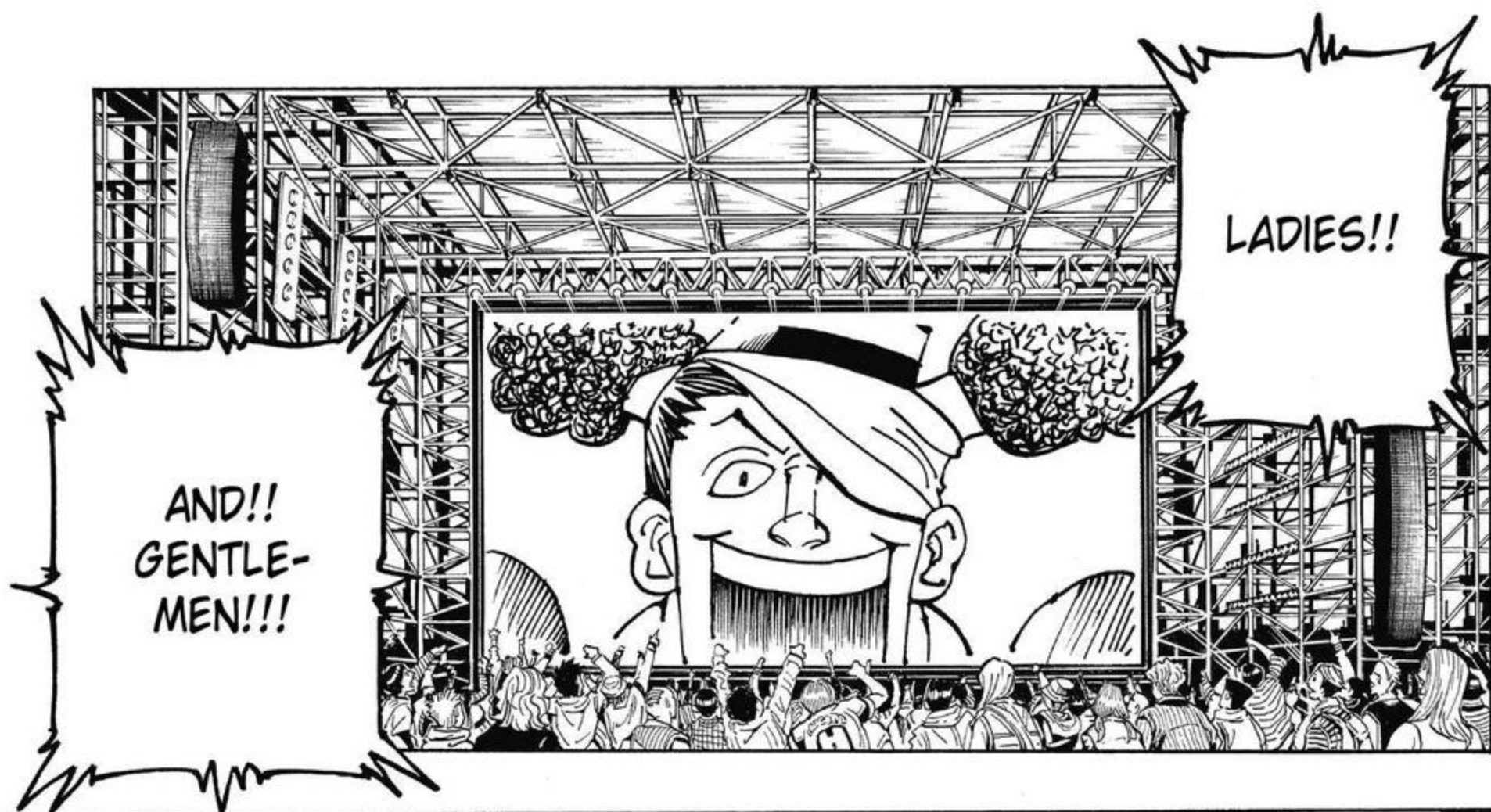




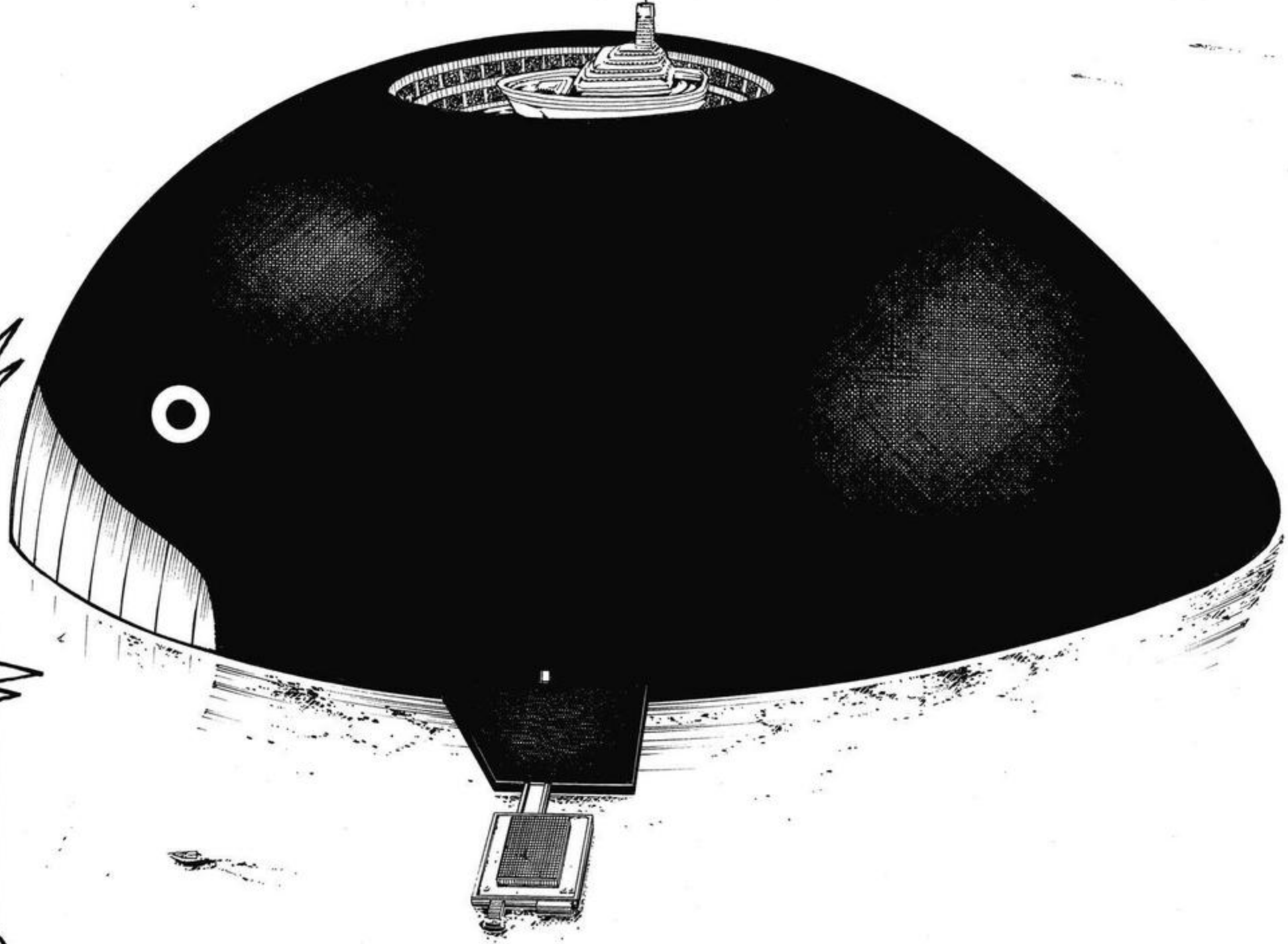


SYARNORKE
RYUSEIH





Chapter 358: Eve



LET THE
PARTY
BEGIN
!!!

THE
JOURNEY
TO THE NEW
CONTINENT
STARTS
TOMORROW
!!!

WHAT YOU
ARE ABOUT TO
EXPERIENCE *IS*
HISTORY! YES,
YOU ARE PART
OF HISTORY! AND
YOU! AND *YOU!*

HOW'S IT GOING, EVERYONE?!
ARE YOU READY
TO WITNESS
HISTORY?!

...THE
MAGNIFICENT
JUGGERNAUT
WHO MADE
THIS MODERN-
DAY ARK
POSSIBLE!!!
OUR KING!!!

HERE
WE ARE!!
LET'S HEAR
IT FOR..

RAAAAH

HUI
GUO
RO-
OO-
OU
!!!

NASUBI-
!!!!!!

OOOOOOOOH

I AM THE
MAGNIFICENT
KING OF
KAKIN!!!

I ONLY
HAVE ONE
THING TO
SAY!!



THE NEW
CONTINENT
IS WITHIN
OUR
GRASP!!

KING
!!

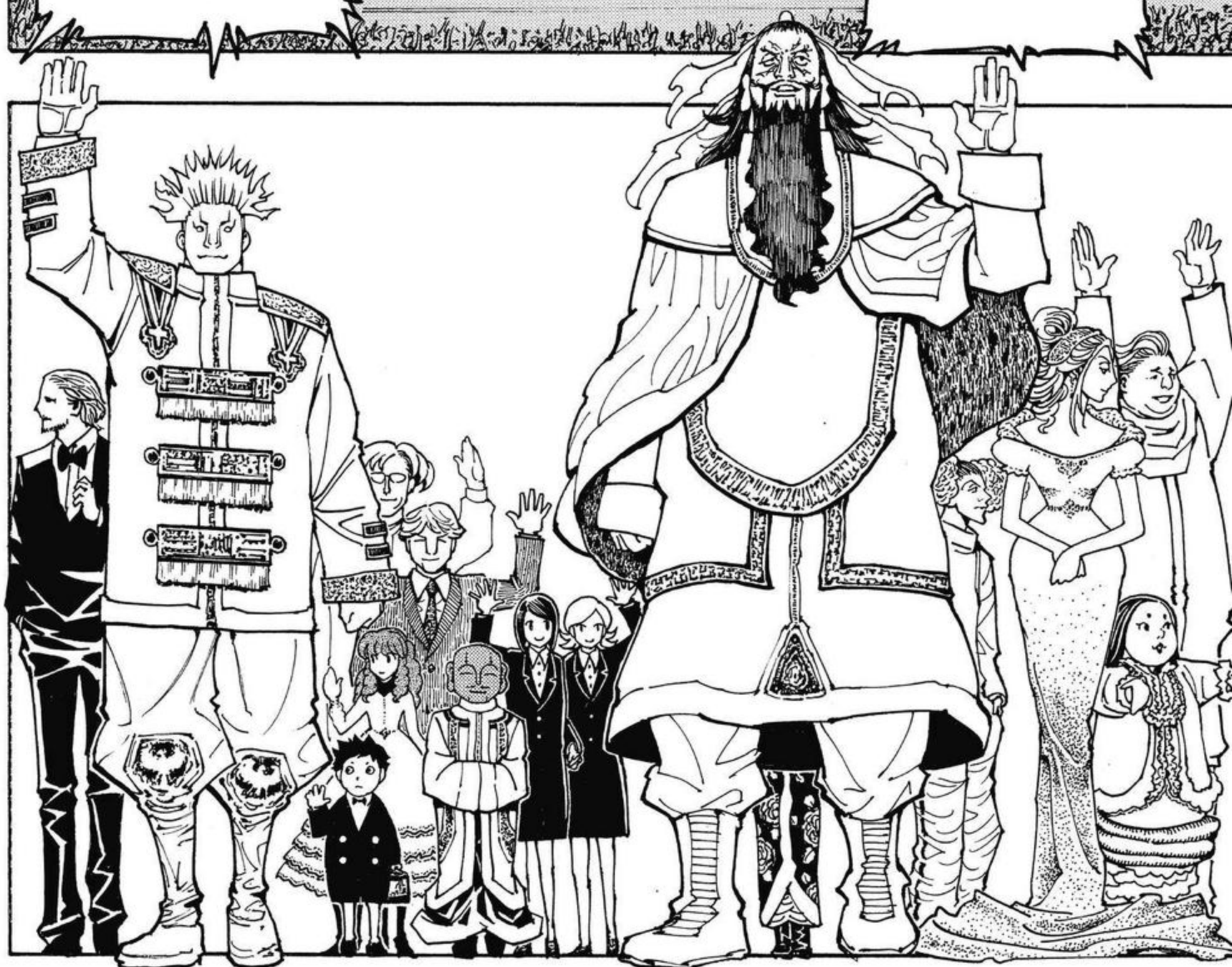
KING
!!

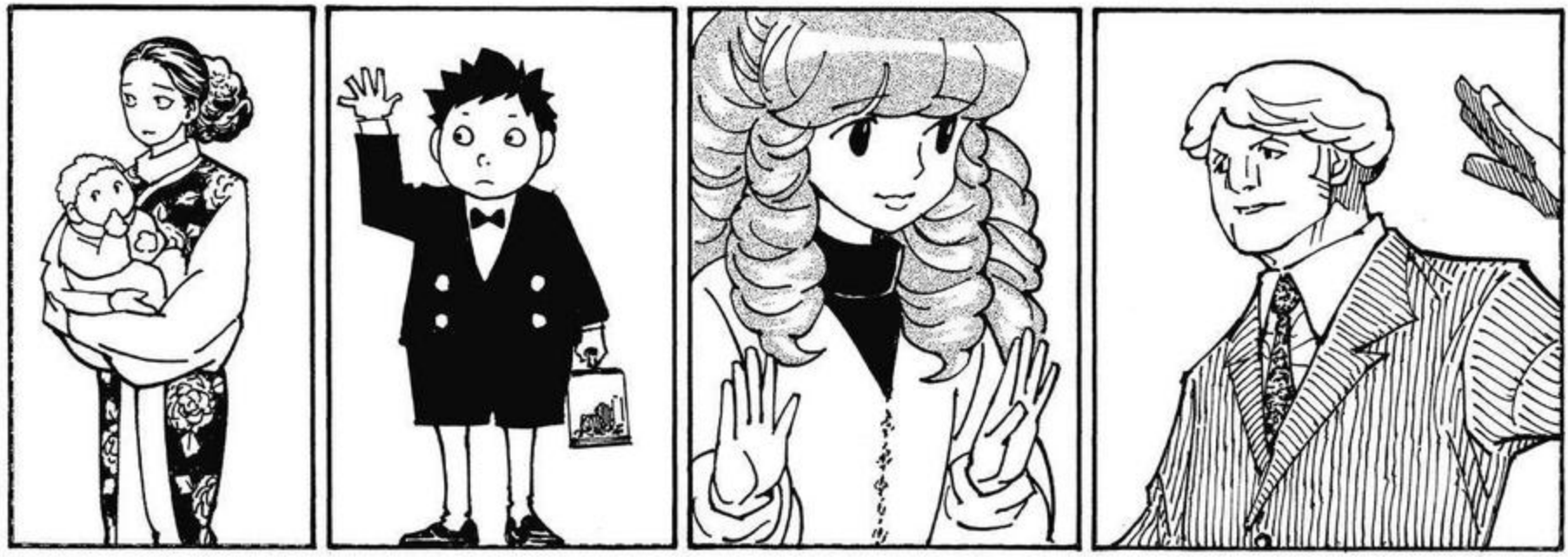
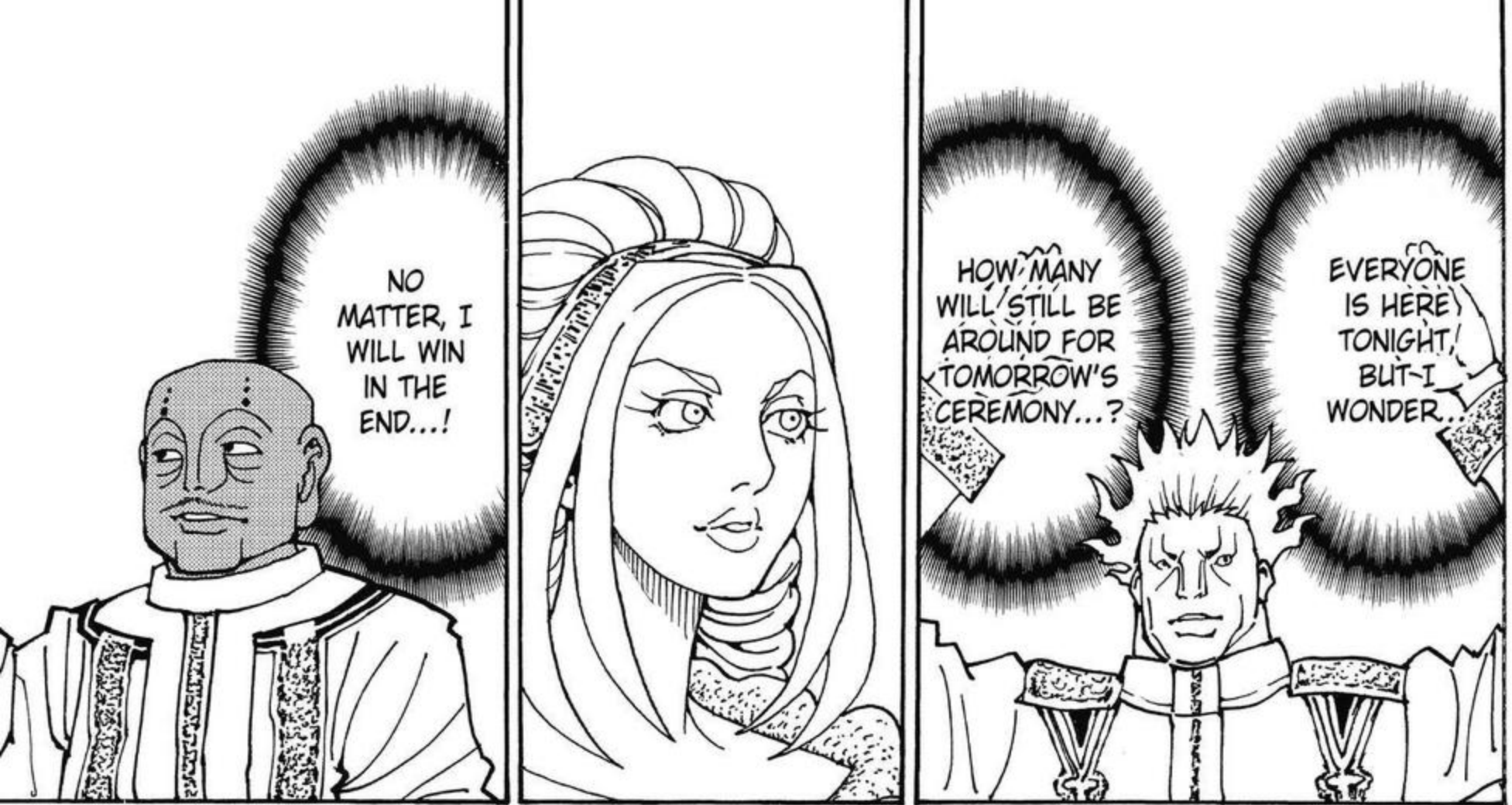
KING
!!

...AND THE PRINCES,
THE HEIRS TO THE
MAGNIFICENT KING,
WAITING TO TAKE
THE FIRST STEP
ON THIS HISTORIC
VOYAGE!!

RAAAA

ON STAGE 2,
WE HAVE
GENERAL
SUPERVISOR
BEYOND...





HAS THERE EVER
BEEN A KING
WHO RISKED HIS
OWN LIFE TO
LEAD HIS PEOPLE
INTO UNCHARTED
LANDS?!
NO, NEVER!!!

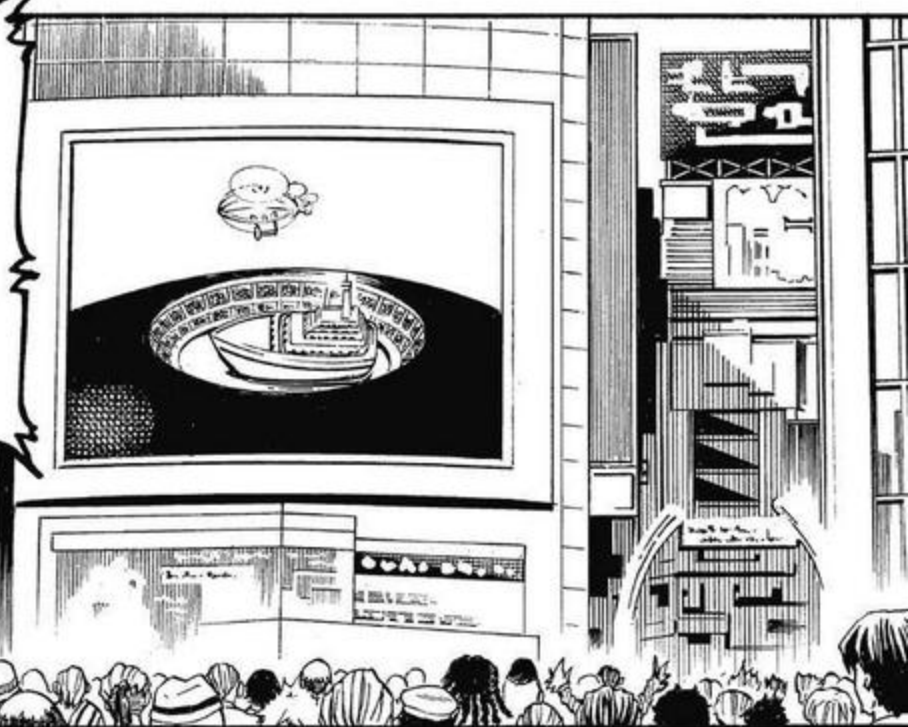


THE AIRSHIP
CARRYING THE
KING IS LIFTING
OFF FOR THE
BLACK WHALE!!
AAAND THERE
IT GOES!!

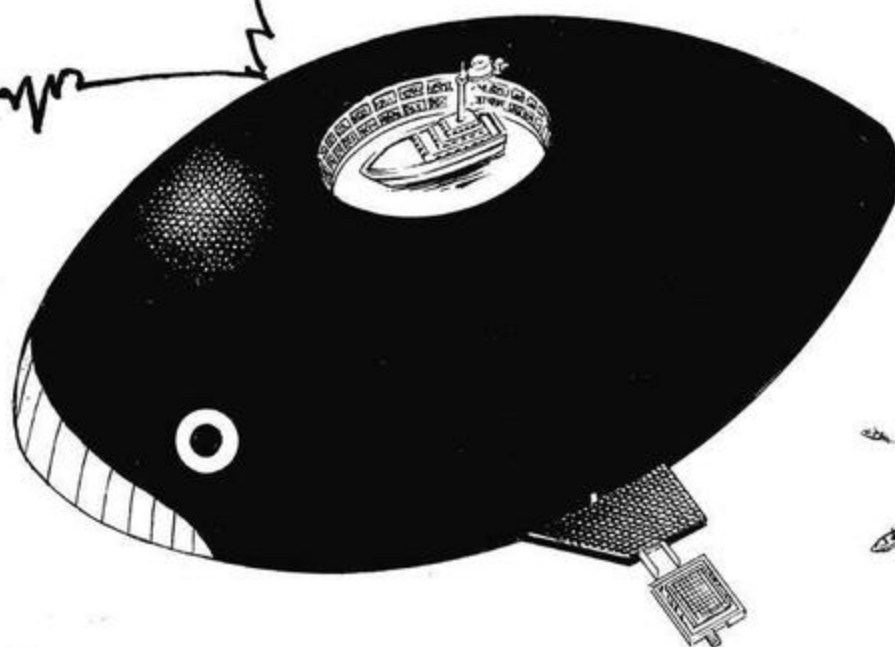
RAAAHHH

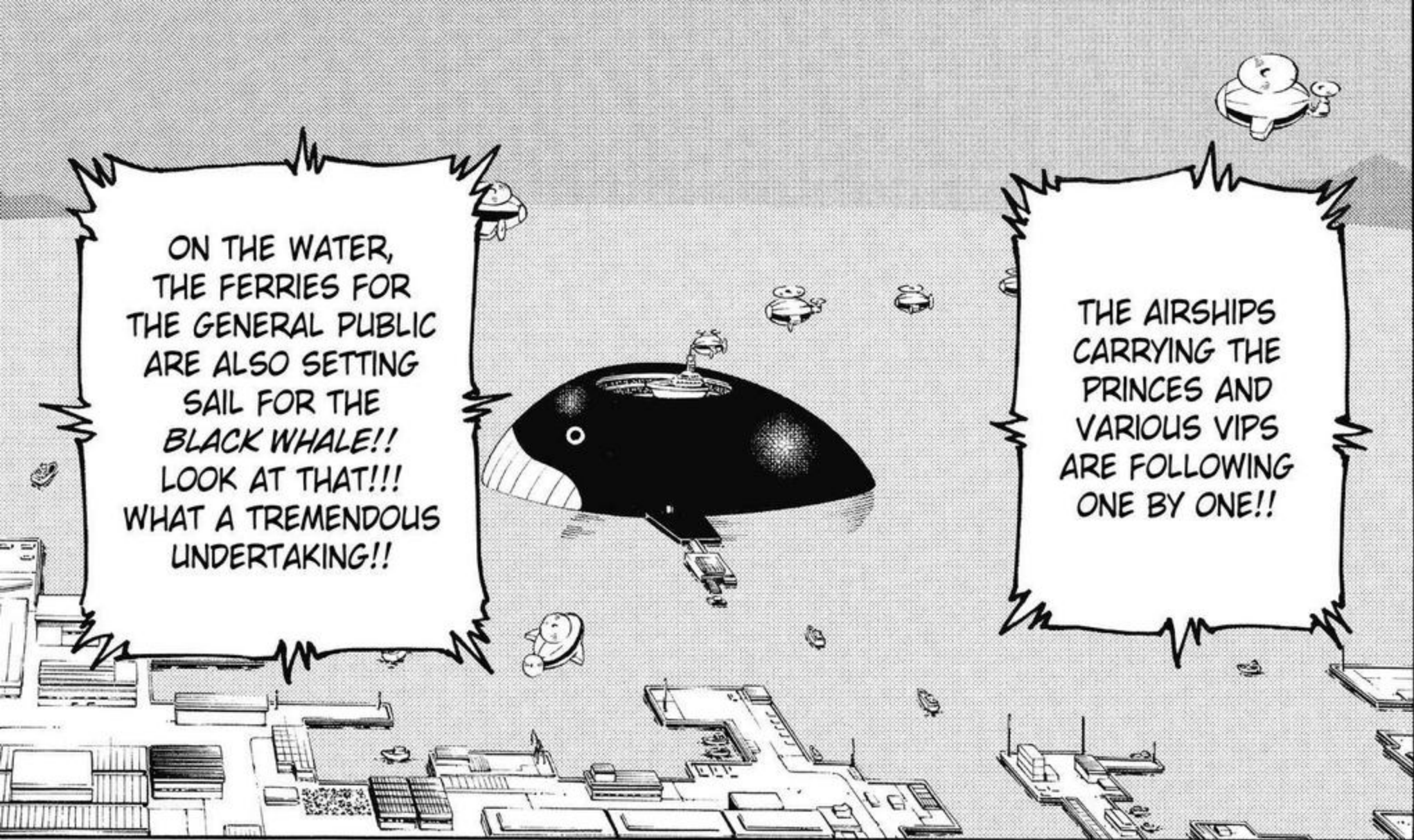


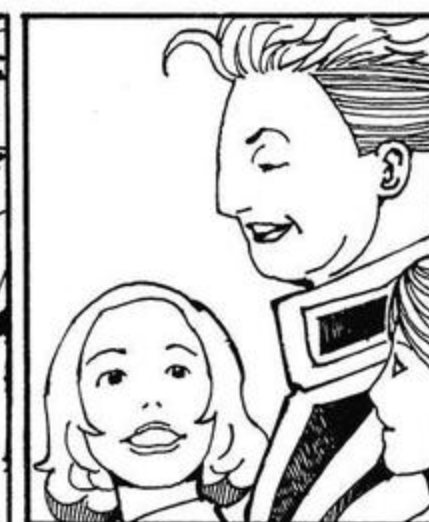
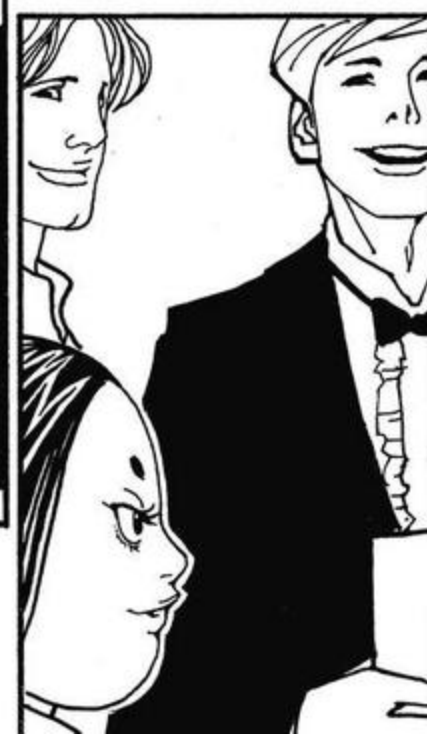
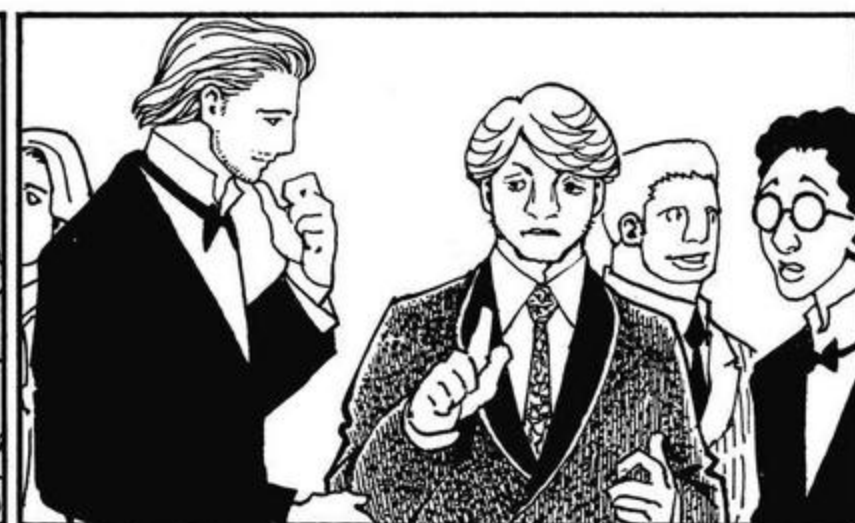
THE
MAGNIFICENT
KING!!
AND THE
MAGNIFICENT
SHIP!!!



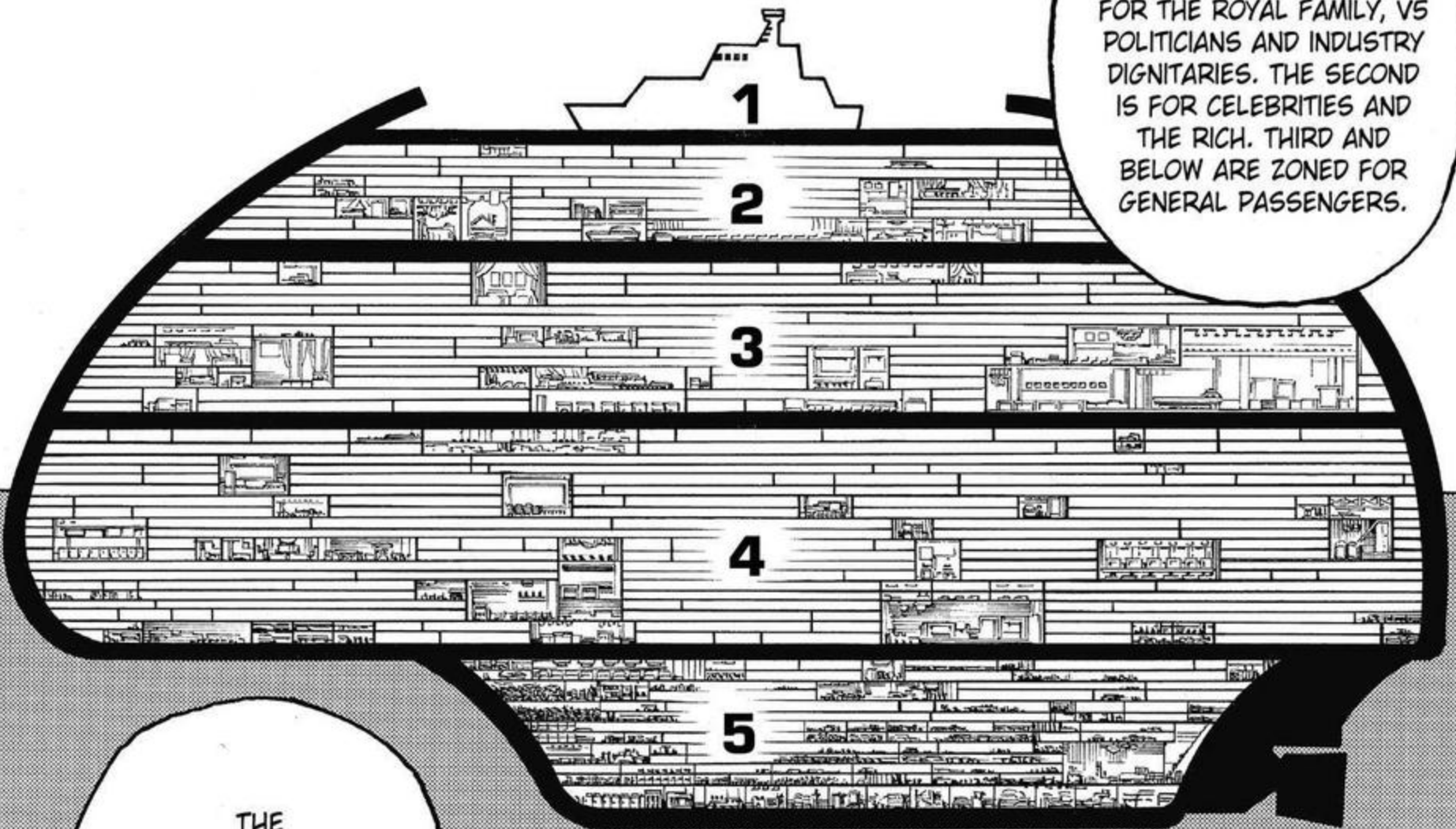
AAAAAND
TOUCHDOWN!!!
HOW
MAGNIFICENT!!!



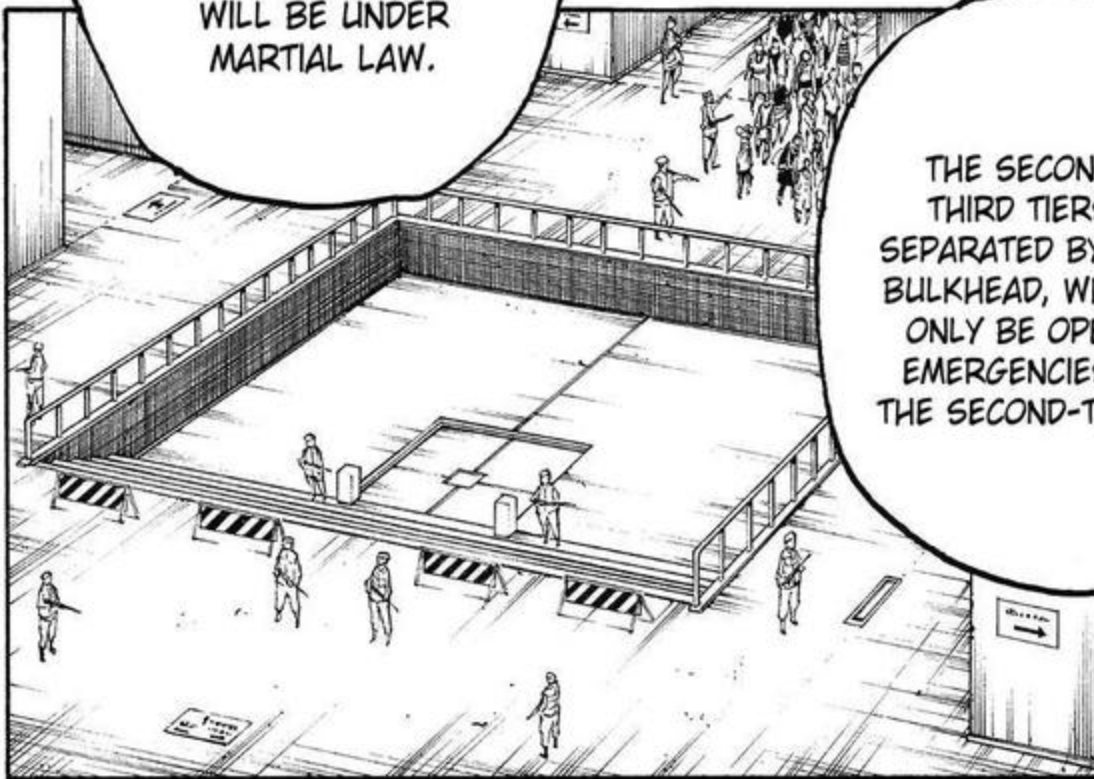




THE BLACK WHALE IS LAYERED IN FIVE TIERS, THE FIRST OF WHICH IS FOR THE ROYAL FAMILY, VS POLITICIANS AND INDUSTRY DIGNITARIES. THE SECOND IS FOR CELEBRITIES AND THE RICH. THIRD AND BELOW ARE ZONED FOR GENERAL PASSENGERS.



THE THROUGHWAYS BETWEEN TIERS ARE GUARDED BY THE ROYAL ARMY. THE SHIP WILL BE UNDER MARTIAL LAW.

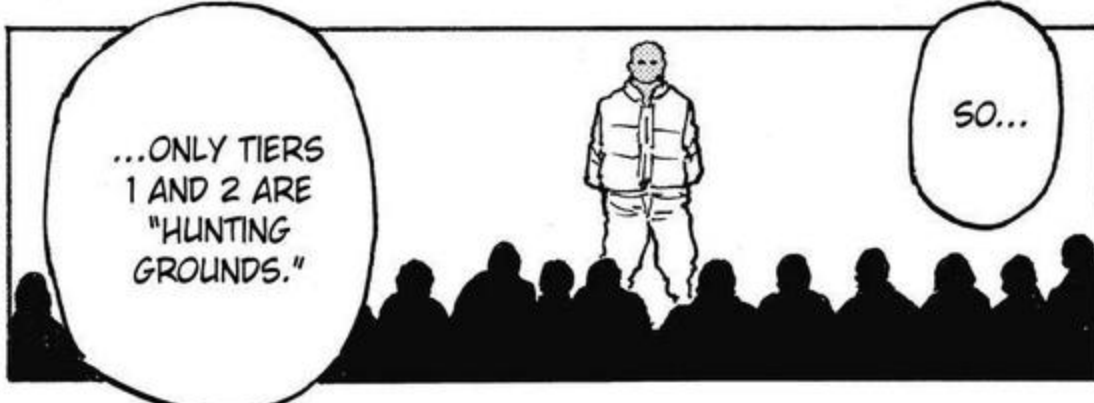


THE SECOND AND THIRD TIERS ARE SEPARATED BY A THICK BULKHEAD, WHICH CAN ONLY BE OPENED IN EMERGENCIES FROM THE SECOND-TIER SIDE.



...ONLY TIERS 1 AND 2 ARE "HUNTING GROUNDS."

SO...

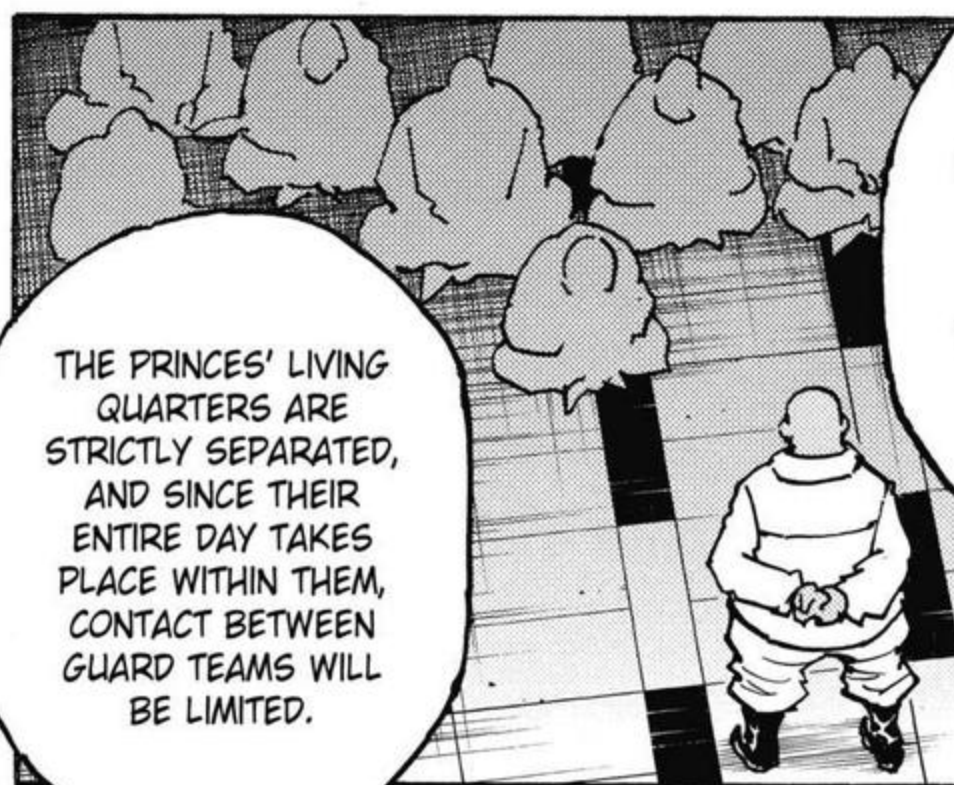




THE REAL PARTY BEGINS AFTER THE DISEMBARKATION CEREMONY IN TWO MONTHS.

UNTIL THEN, WE ARE **GUARDS**, NOT SOLDIERS.

EXERCISE RESTRAINT ON BOARD.



THE PRINCES' LIVING QUARTERS ARE STRICTLY SEPARATED, AND SINCE THEIR ENTIRE DAY TAKES PLACE WITHIN THEM, CONTACT BETWEEN GUARD TEAMS WILL BE LIMITED.

WE WILL EXECUTE OPERATION ASSAULT ONLY IF FIRST PRINCE BENJAMIN COMMANDS, BUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES MUST BE EXCEPTIONAL.



ALL PRINCES WILL ATTEND DINNER PARTIES EVERY SUNDAY TO WHICH DIGNITARIES ARE ALSO INVITED.



AND PERHAPS FOR THE ENTIRE TIME.

SO THERE ISN'T ANY OPPORTUNITY FOR NOW...

BUT THEY WILL ENTER AND LEAVE AT PRESCRIBED TIMES, AND NO PRINCE WILL PASS ANOTHER IN TRANSIT.

OUR RESOURCES
ARE MEAGER,
EVEN DISCOUNTING
THE EXISTENCE OF
NEW USERS...
THE ASSOCIATE
HUNTERS GUARDING
THE AREAS OUTSIDE
LIVING QUARTERS
AREN'T OUR ALLIES
EITHER... IN FACT,
THEY COULD BE
DANGEROUS.

WE MUST FIRST GET
SOME IDEA OF THE
ENEMY'S CAPABILITIES
AND ASSESS THE
BALANCE OF POWER...
WE CURRENTLY ONLY
KNOW THE NUMBER OF
GUARDS EMPLOYED BY
EACH PRINCE.

...ALMOST 150
PROVISIONAL
HUNTERS WILL
BE ROAMING
THE HALLS
WITH SECRET
MISSIONS...



THE EXAMINEES HIRED BY KAKIN
MUST HAVE BEEN KEPT IGNORANT
OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES...
THAT'S HOW MOST KAKIN GUARDS
ELUDED MY CHAIN...! THEIR EXAMS
WERE MORE LENIENT THAN THE
TEAM FOR THE DARK CONTINENT,
SINCE THEY WOULD BE ASSOCIATE
MEMBERS WITH LIMITED LICENSES
ONLY FOR THE VOYAGE. IT'S COMING
BACK TO HAUNT US...

RATHER THAN CLARIFYING
RISKS INTO BLACK AND WHITE,
I CAN'T HELP FEELING THAT
THIS PROMOTED CONSIDERABLE
UNCERTAINTIES, AND INCREASED
THE PROBABILITY OF
UNPREDICTABLE EVENTS...!

INSTEAD OF REVISING
THE BYLAWS, WE TOOK
THE MODERATE ROUTE
OF ADDING A CLAUSE
UNDER ARTICLE 2 FOR
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS...

MIZAI?
WHAT IS
IT?

KURAPIKA.

...MAKING ME
HYPERSENSITIVE...?

OR... IS MY
PARTICULAR
SITUATION
WITH THE
SUCCESSION
BATTLE AND THE
NEED TO SEEK
CONTACT WITH
TSERRIEDNICH...

KAKIN'S
RESPONSE
HASN'T BEEN
CONSISTENT.
THERE COULD
BE A RIOT.

NOW THEY'RE
SAYING IF YOU'RE
THE ONE WHO
REPORTS THE
CRIME OF A
TICKET HOLDER,
YOU GET THEIR
SPOT.

TICKET FRAUD AND
THEFT, RACIAL
CONFLICTS, DRUNKEN
BRAWLS, IDENTITY
THEFT, ASSAULT,
ETC., PLUS PLENTY OF
FALSE REPORTS ON
TOP OF IT ALL.
IT'S JUST A MESS.

I'M FOCUSED
ON TIERS 3-4.
THE CRIME RATE IS
FAR HIGHER THAN
ANTICIPATED.

WE WON'T
BE ABLE TO
ATTEND THE
ZODIACS
MEETING
BEFORE THE
DEPARTURE.

BOTOBAI AND I
ARE ASSISTING
THE MILITARY
TO TAKE
COMMAND
OF PRIVATE
SECURITY.

PEOPLE BELIEVE IF
SOMEONE COMMITS A
CRIME, THEIR TICKET
WILL BE INVALIDATED,
AND SOMEONE FROM
THE WAITING LIST
GETS TO GO IN
THEIR PLACE.



THE NUMBER
OF CLINICS IS A
FIFTH OF WHAT
WAS PLANNED.
ONLY 1/15 OF
THE DOCTORS
CAME.

THERE ARE THREE
CLINICS ON TIER 3,
AND ONLY TWO ON
TIERS 4 AND 5.
THERE'S NOT EVEN A
DEDICATED DOCTOR
FOR TIER 5.



THE
PLANS ARE
MEANINGLESS.
THE MEDICAL
TEAMS ARE
THE WORST.

WE UNDER-
ESTIMATED
KAKIN'S
SLOPPINESS.

I
WILL.

BE
CAREFUL.

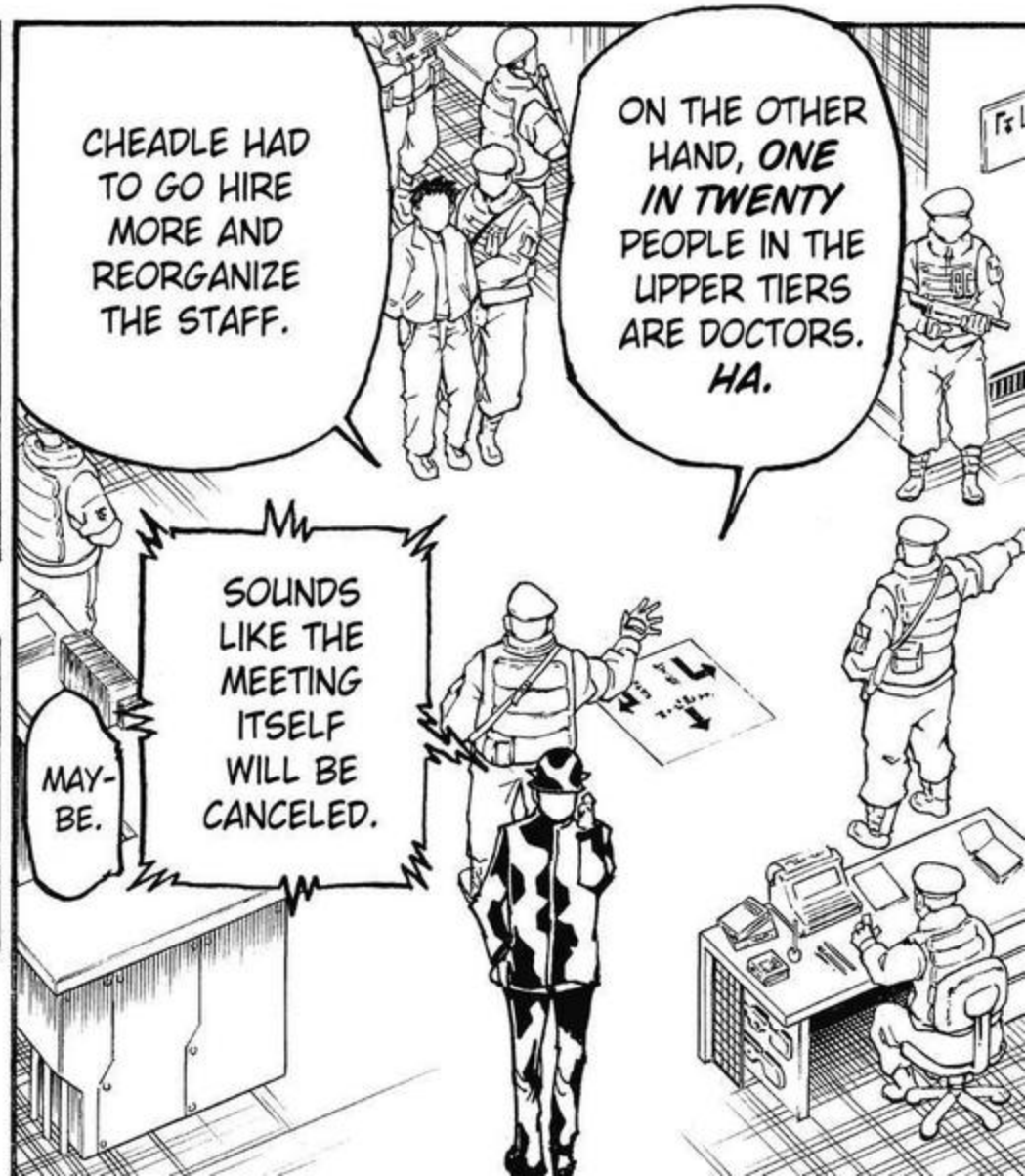
THIS
MIGHT BE
MY LAST
CALL
BEFORE
WE LEAVE.

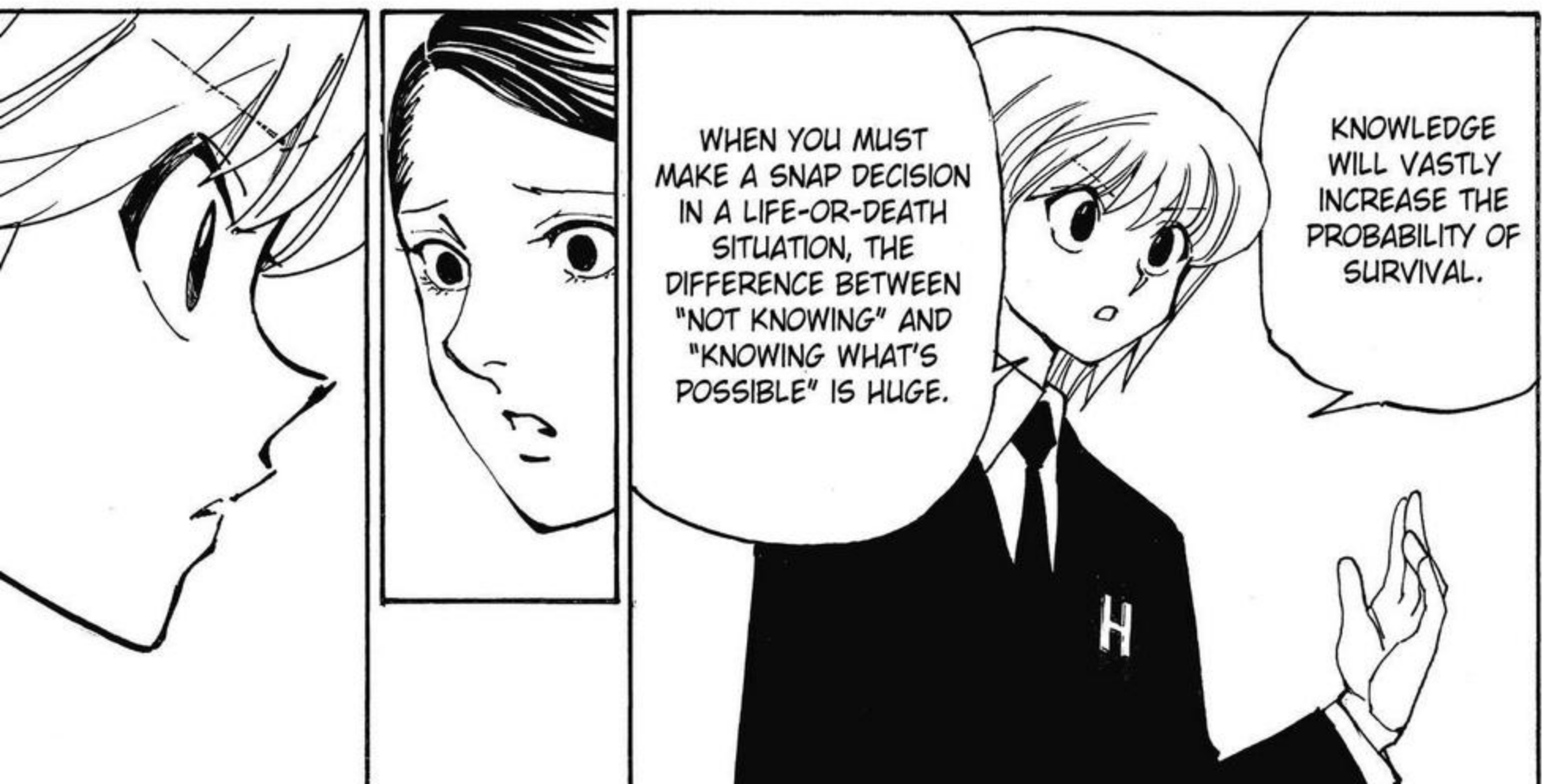
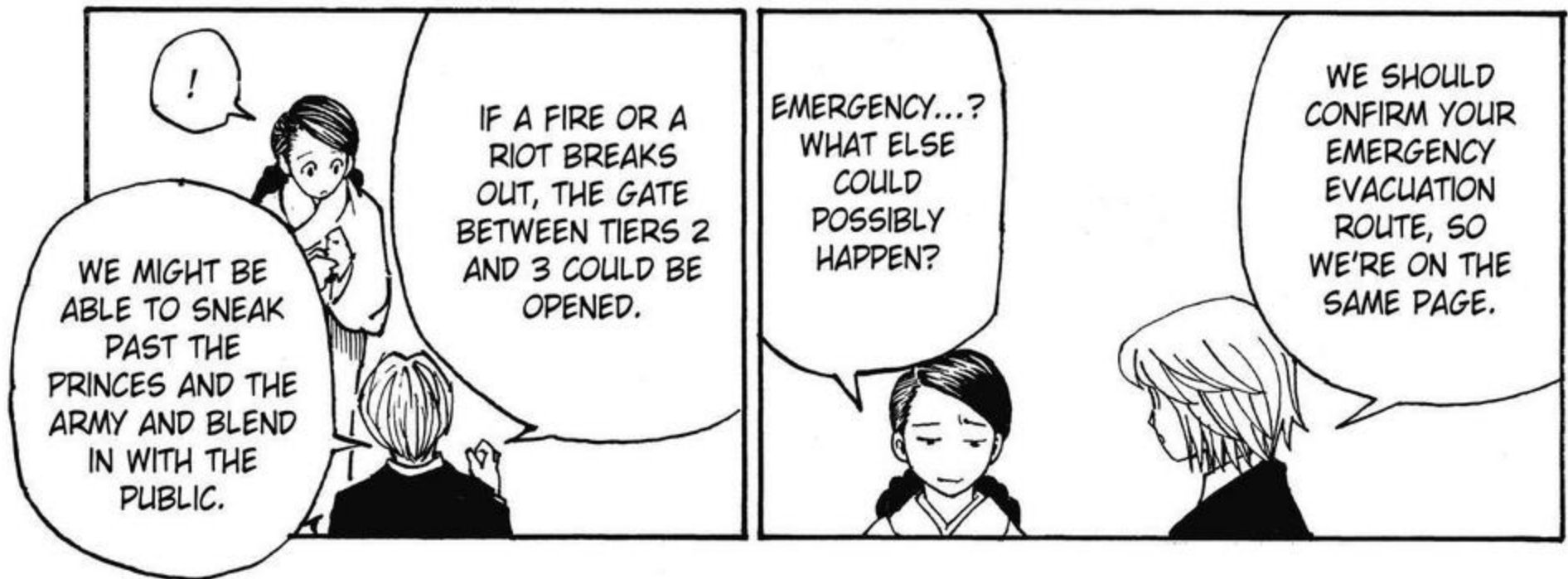
CHEADLE HAD
TO GO HIRE
MORE AND
REORGANIZE
THE STAFF.

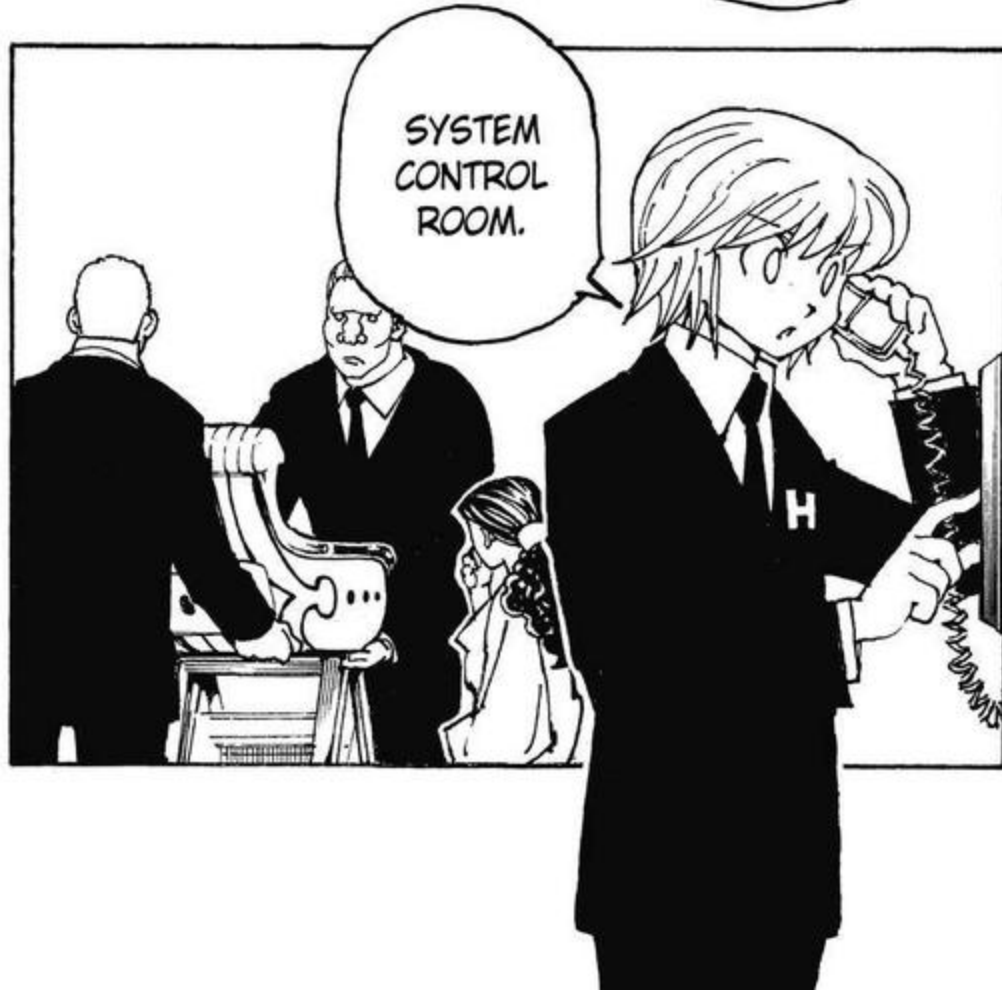
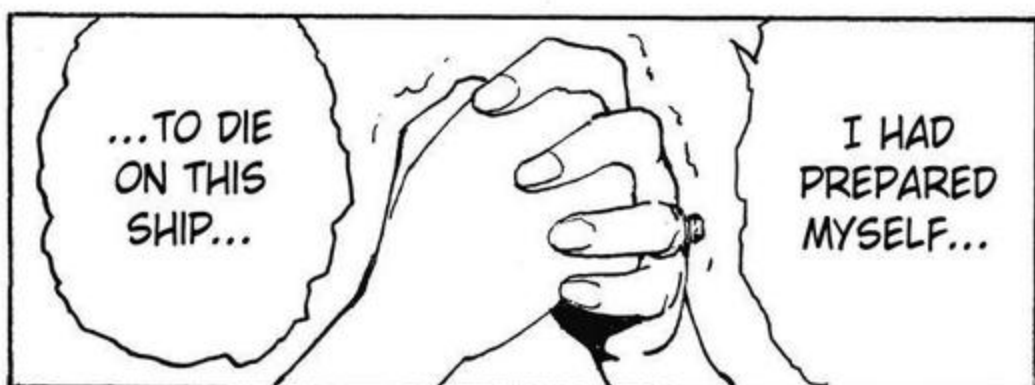
ON THE OTHER
HAND, **ONE
IN TWENTY**
PEOPLE IN THE
UPPER TIERS
ARE DOCTORS.
HA.

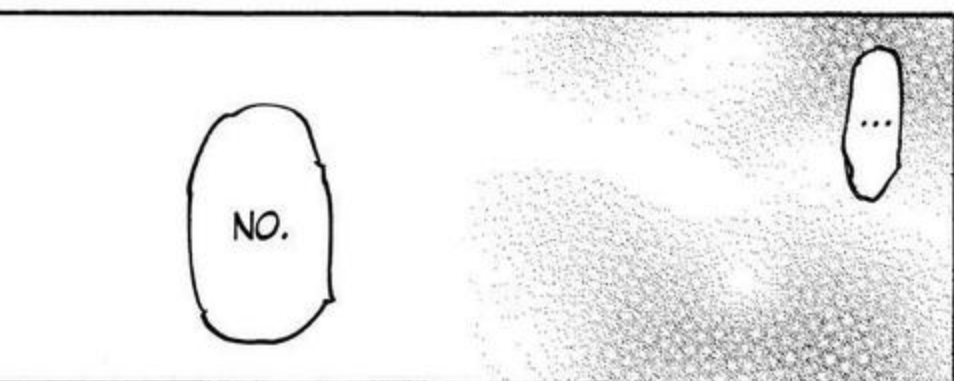
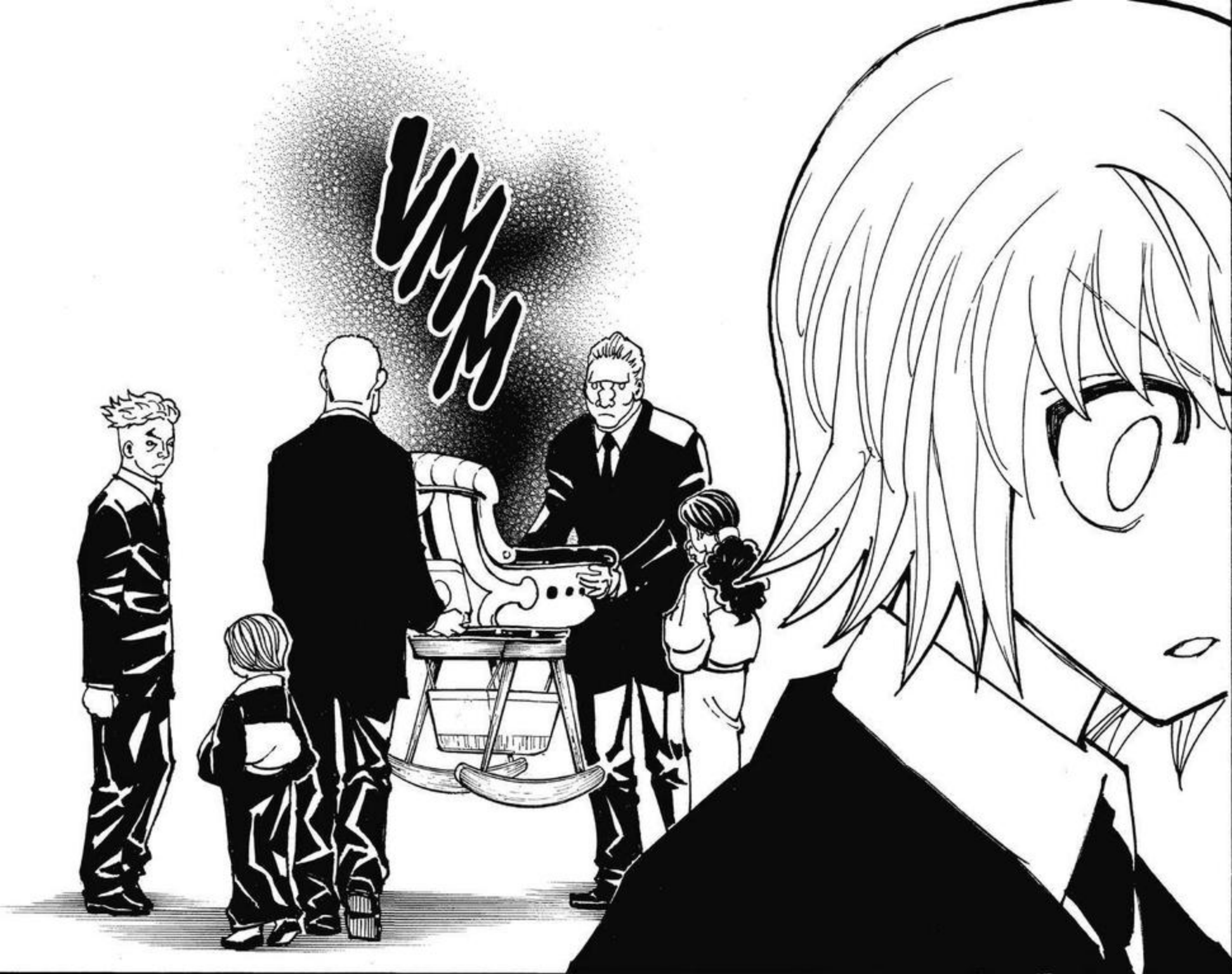
SOUNDS
LIKE THE
MEETING
ITSELF
WILL BE
CANCELED.

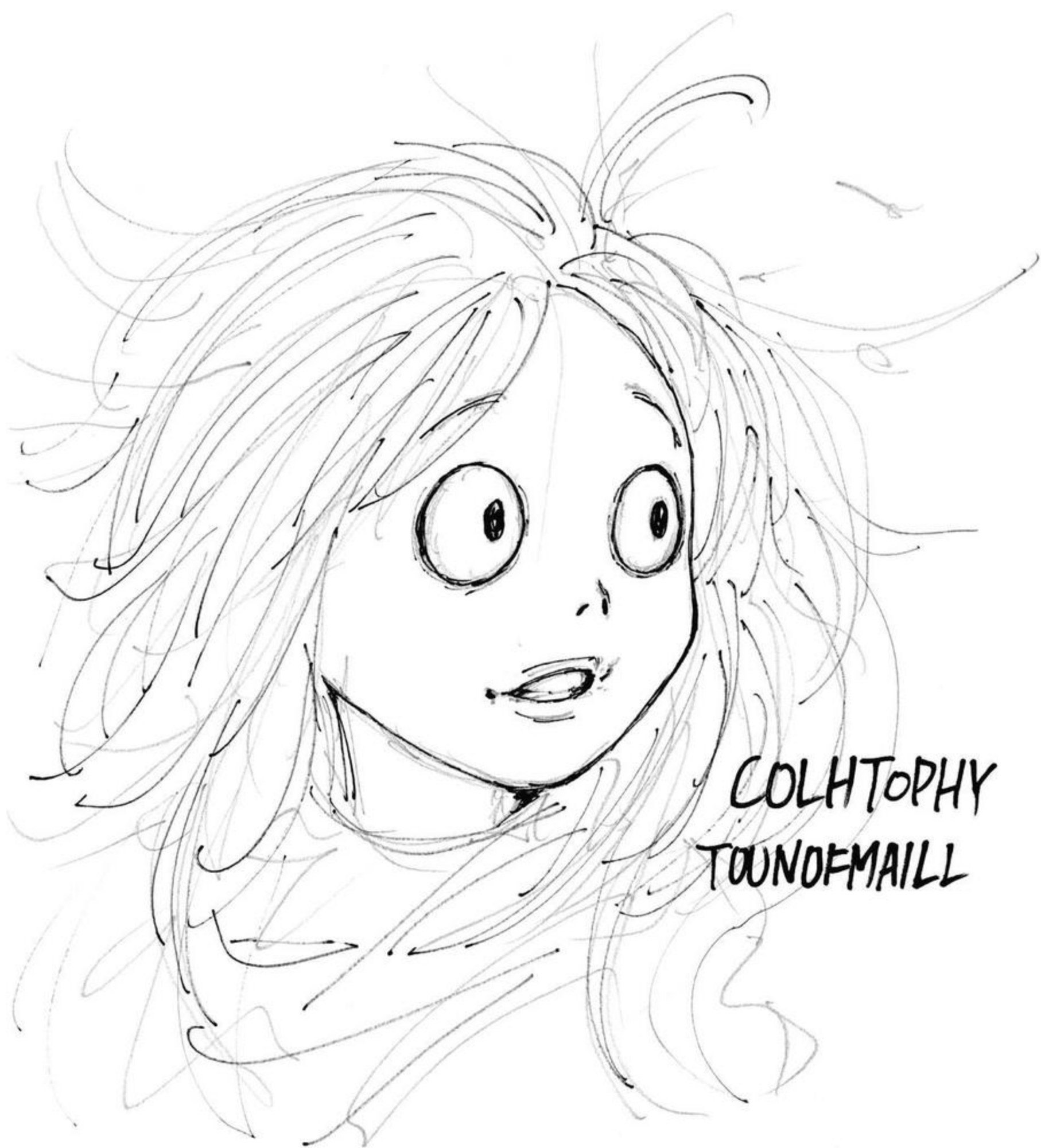
MAY-
BE.





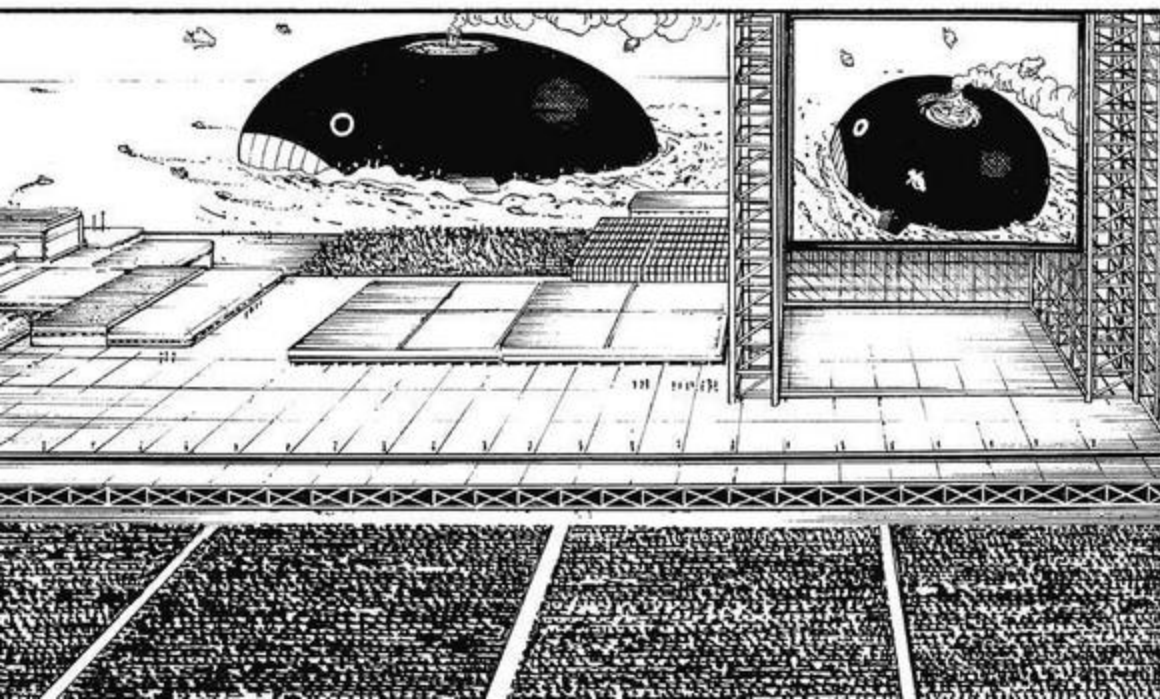
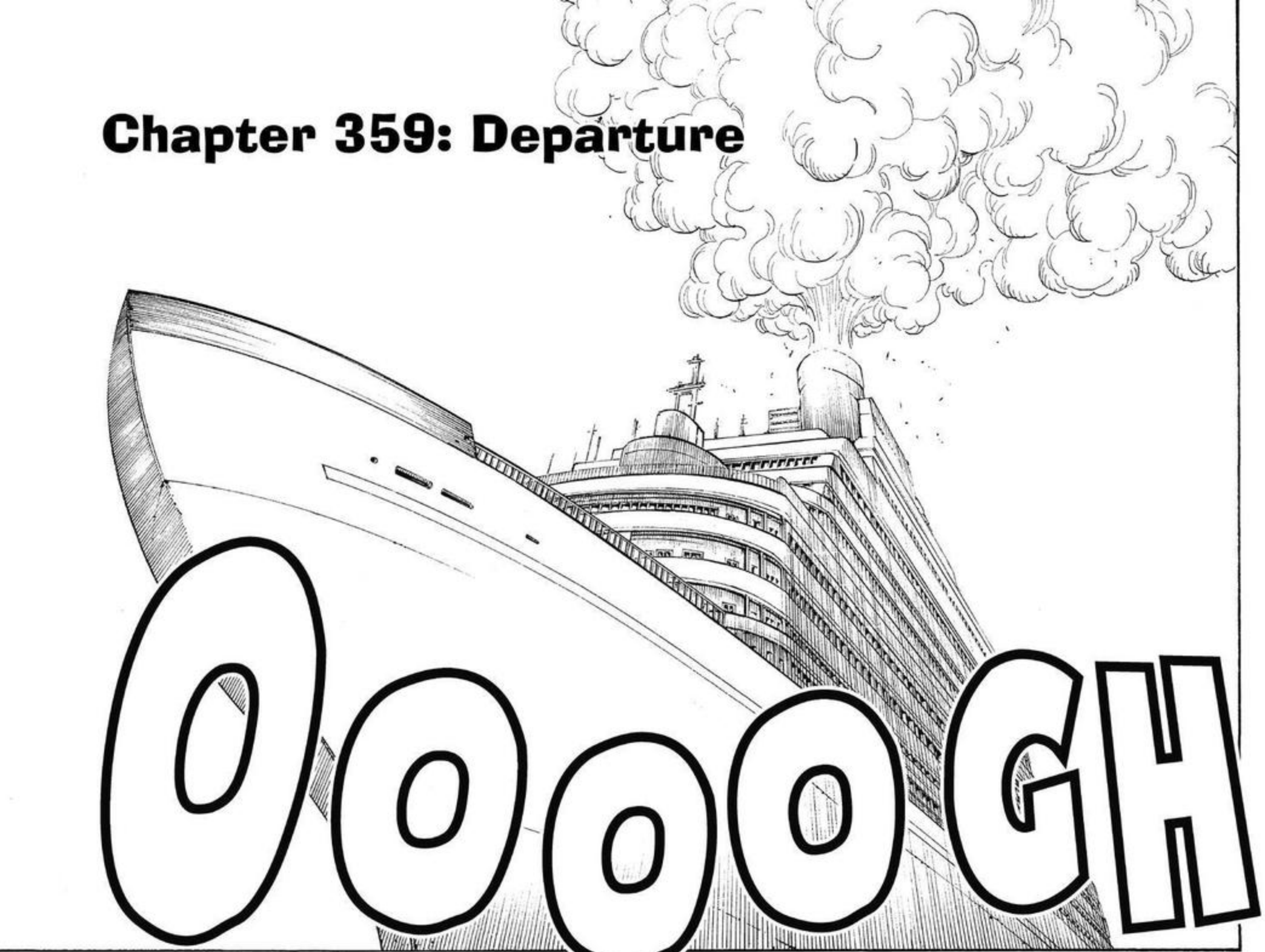


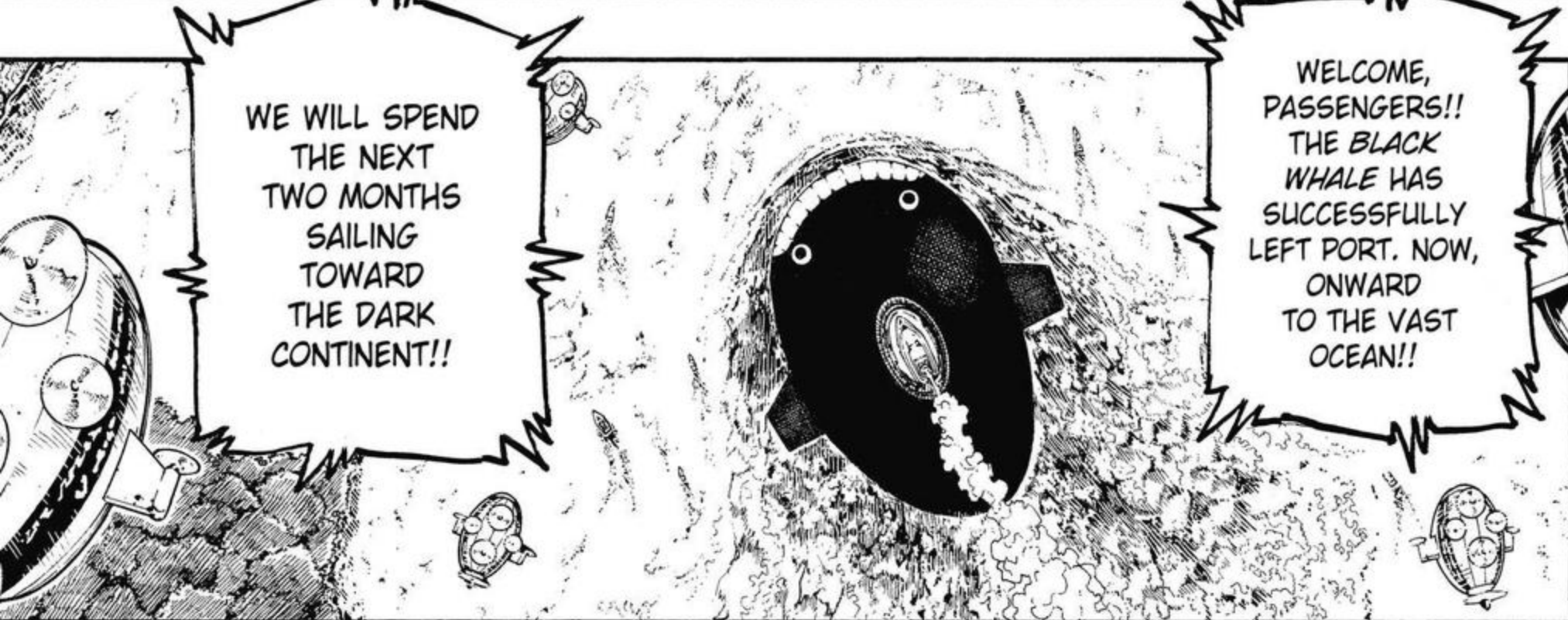
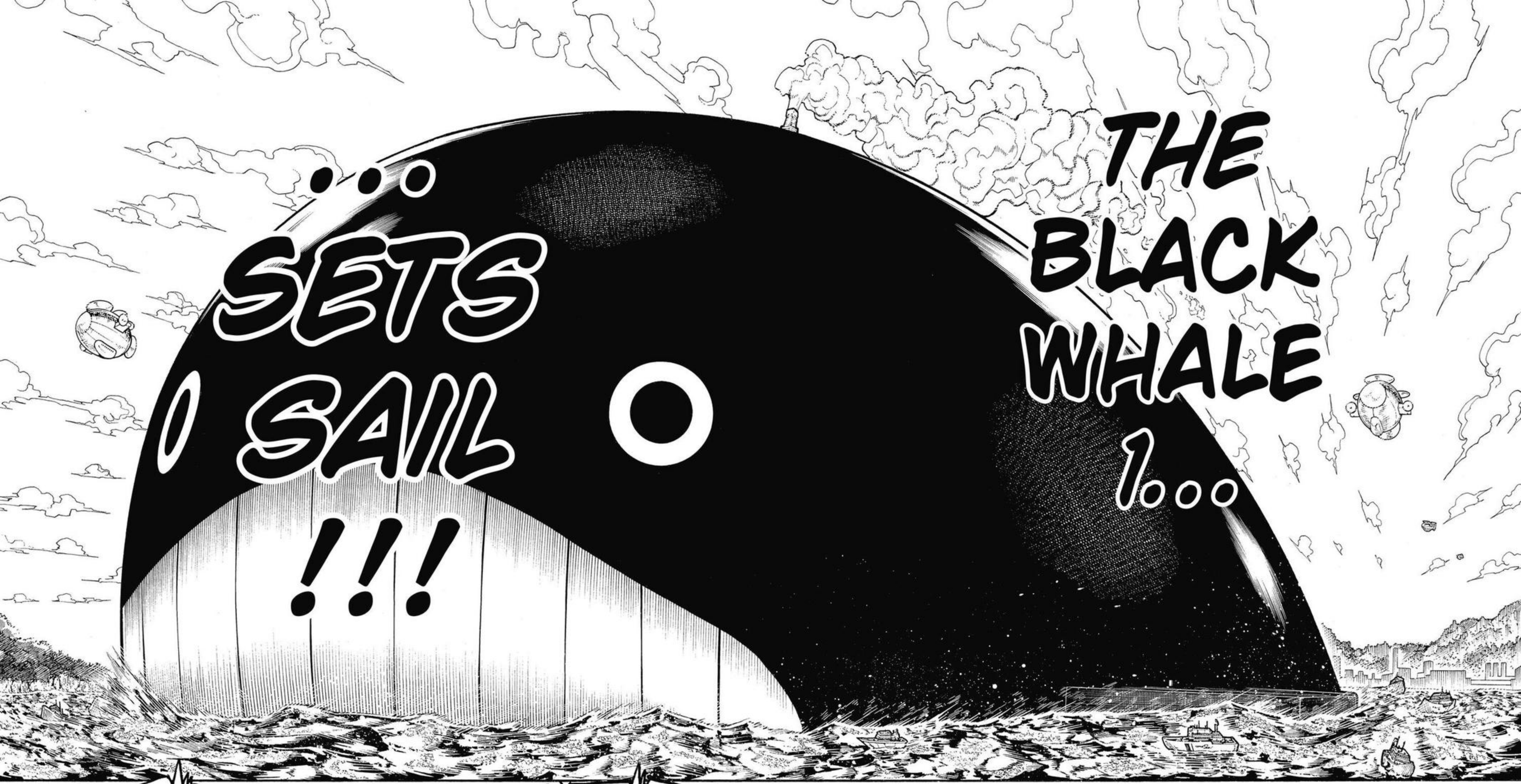


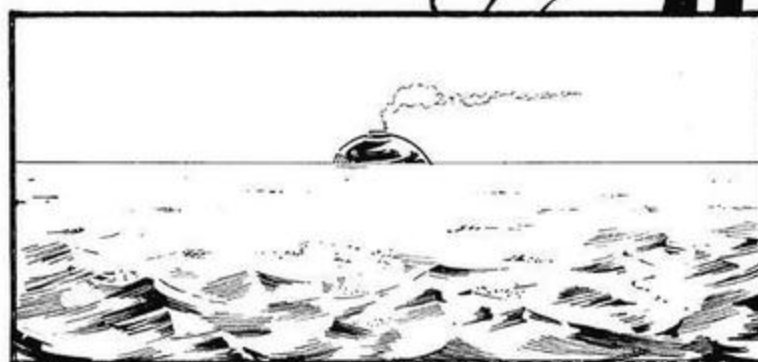
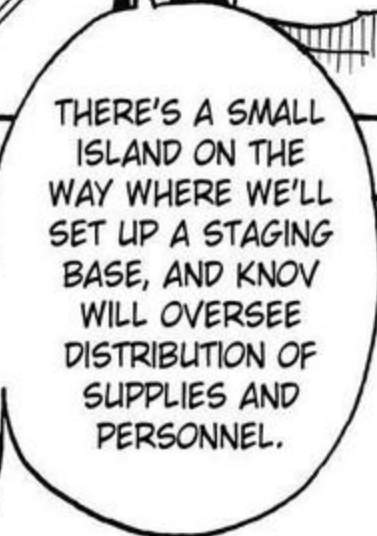
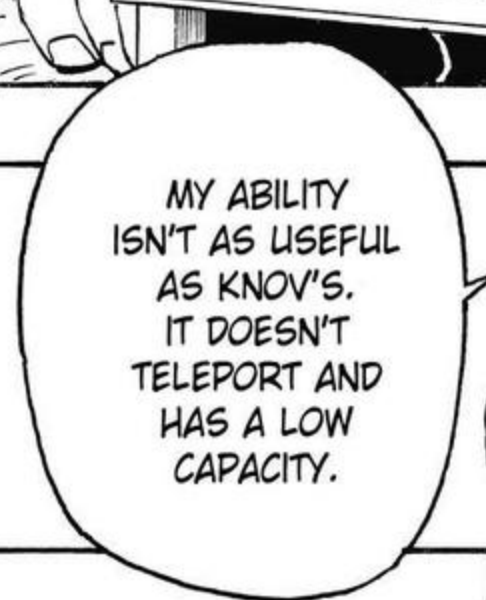
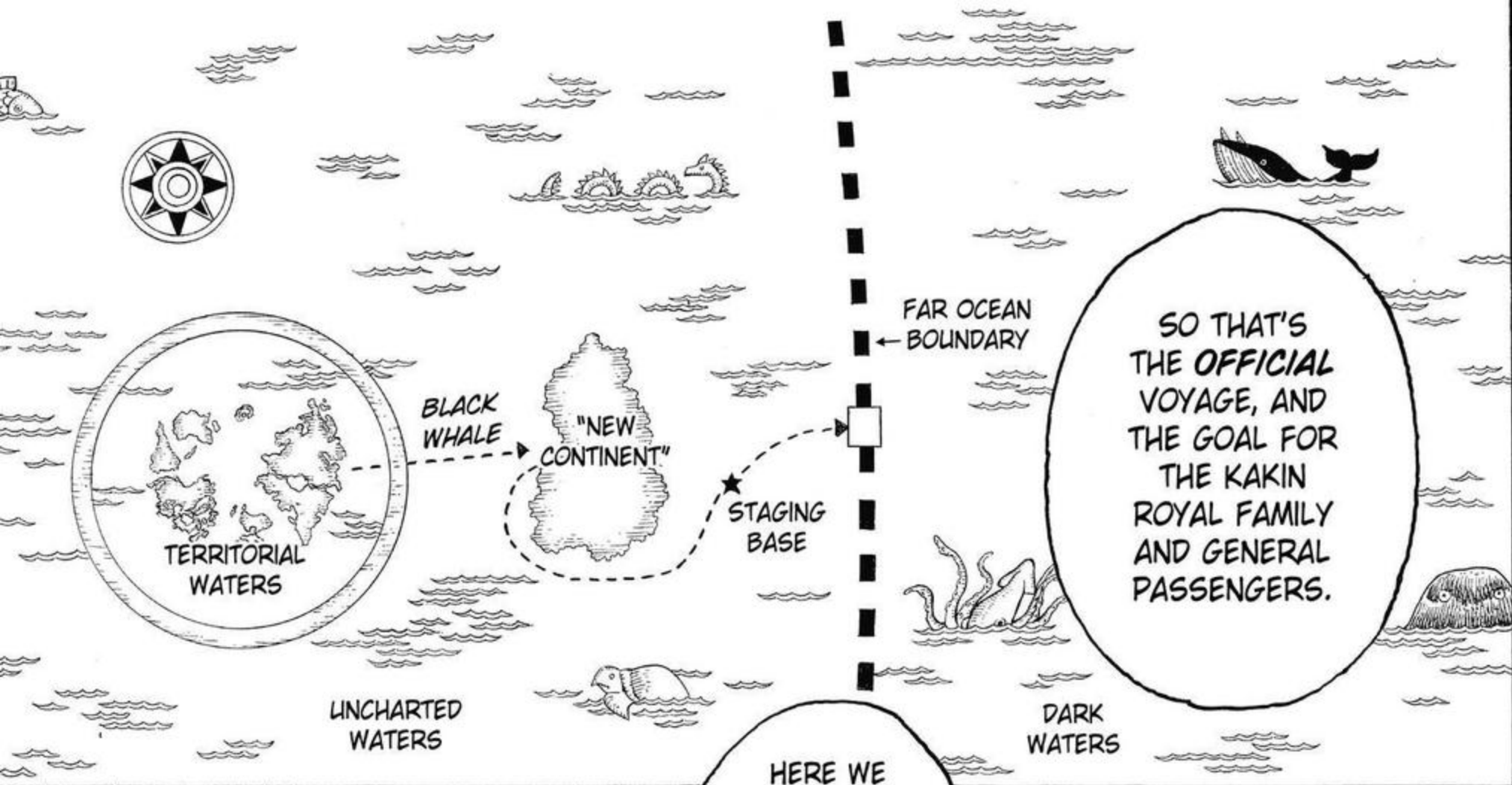


COLHTOPHY
TOUNOEMAILL

Chapter 359: Departure







TIER 1, BEYOND'S
HOLDING CELL



I THINK IT'S
A WASTE OF
PERSONNEL.

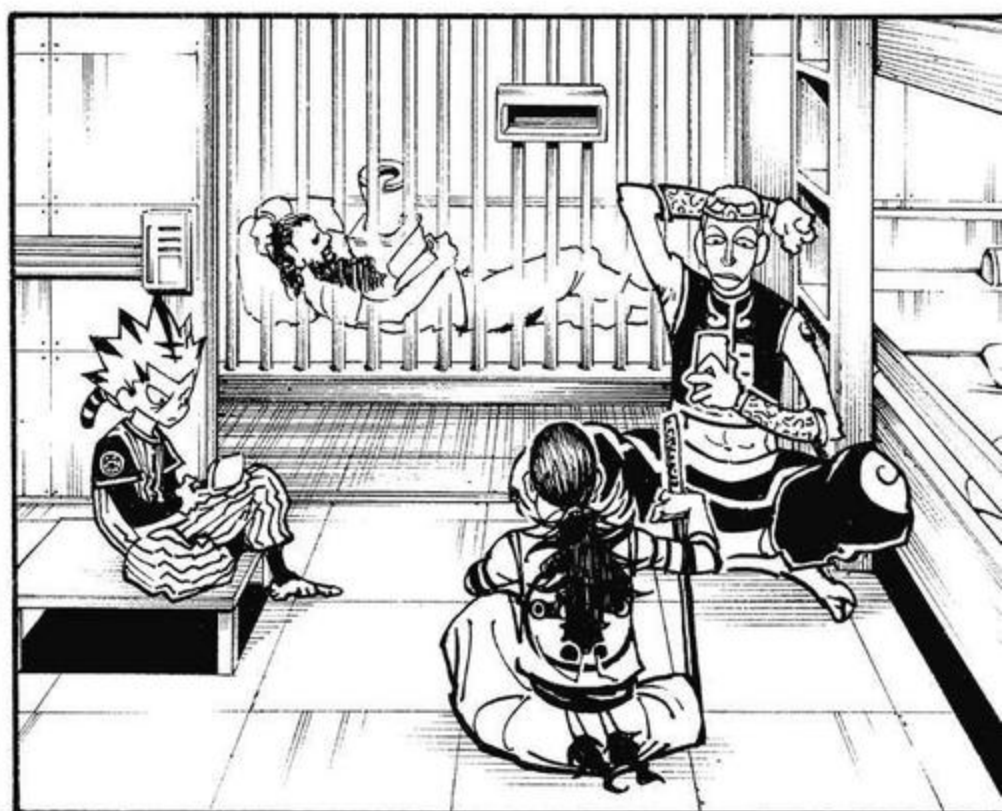
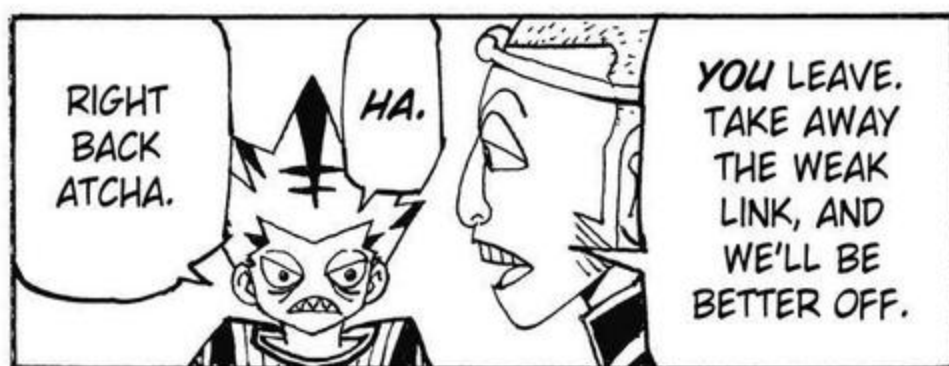
DO WE
REALLY
NEED *THREE*
PEOPLE
WATCHING
HIM?



RIGHT
BACK
ATCHA.

HA.

YOU LEAVE.
TAKE AWAY
THE WEAK
LINK, AND
WE'LL BE
BETTER OFF.



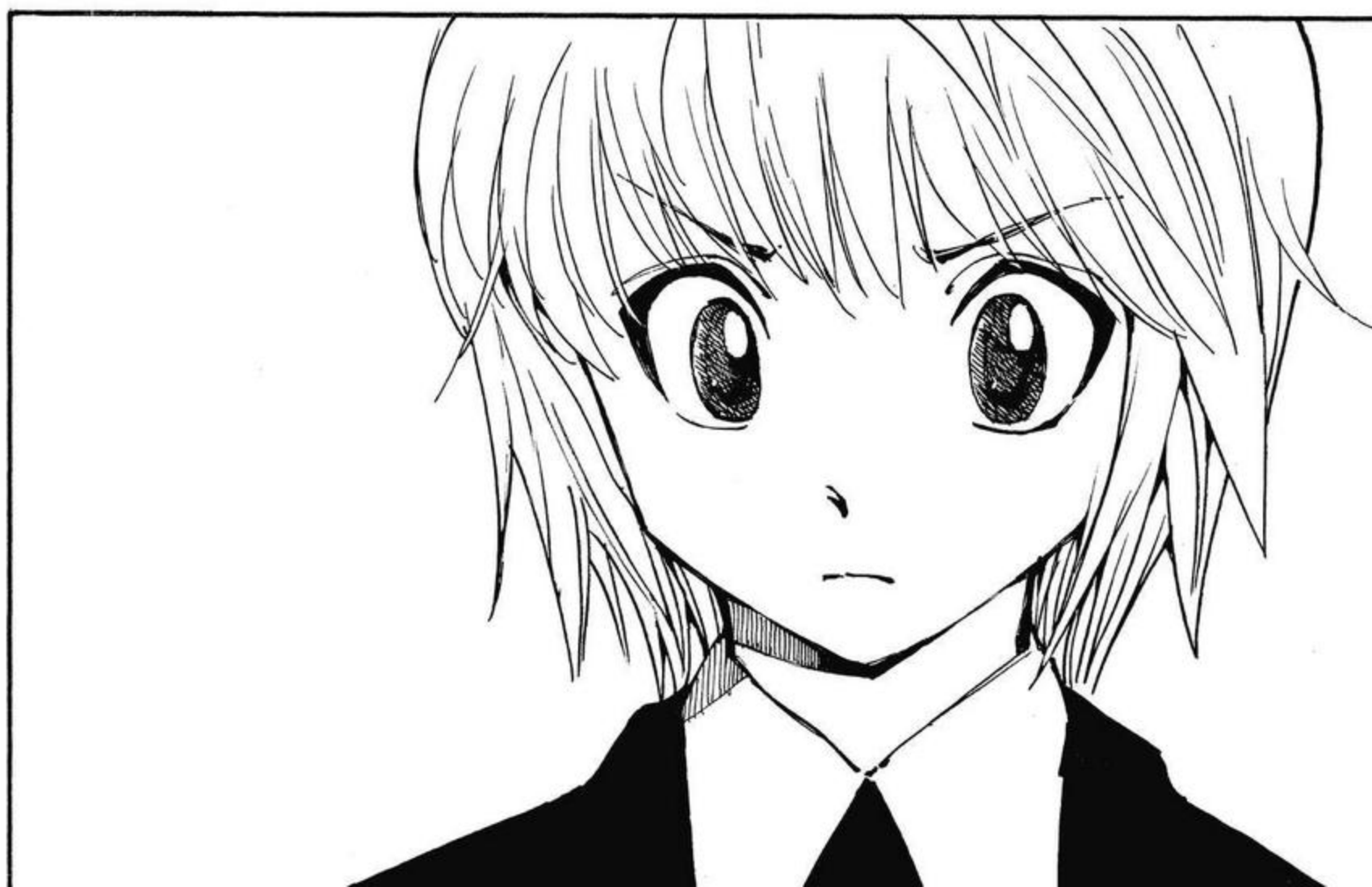
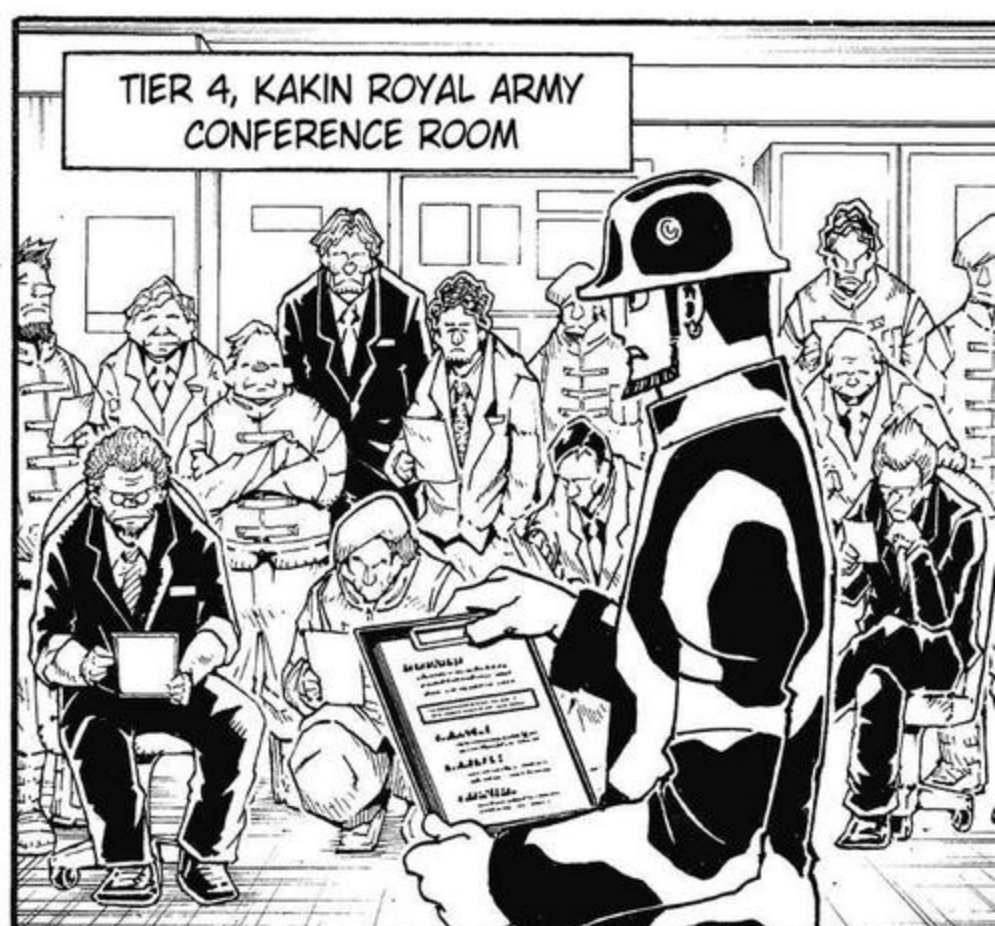
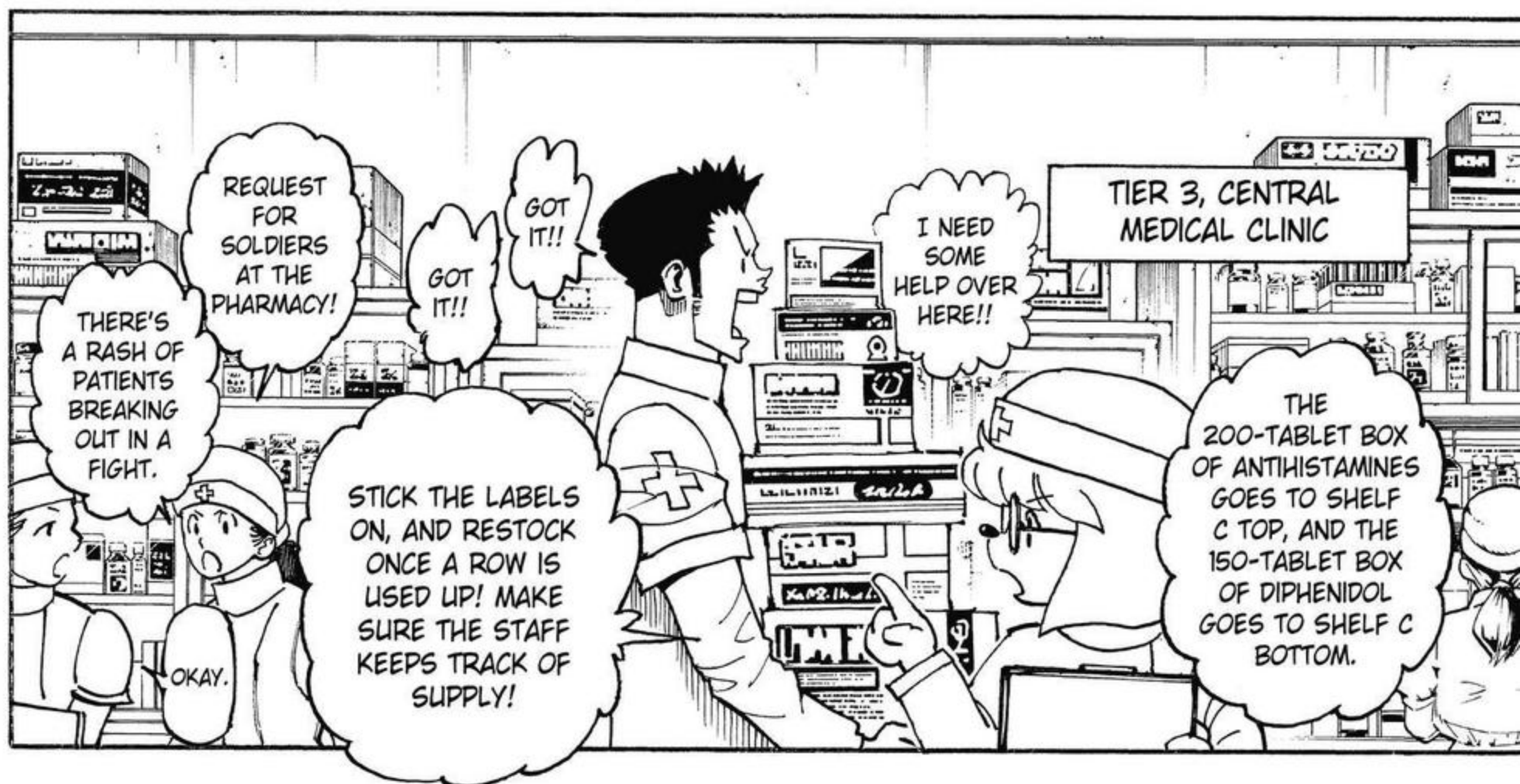
WE'LL SUGGEST
A ROTATION TO
MIZAI SO THAT
ONE OF US CAN
GO SUPPORT
THE ROYAL
ARMY.

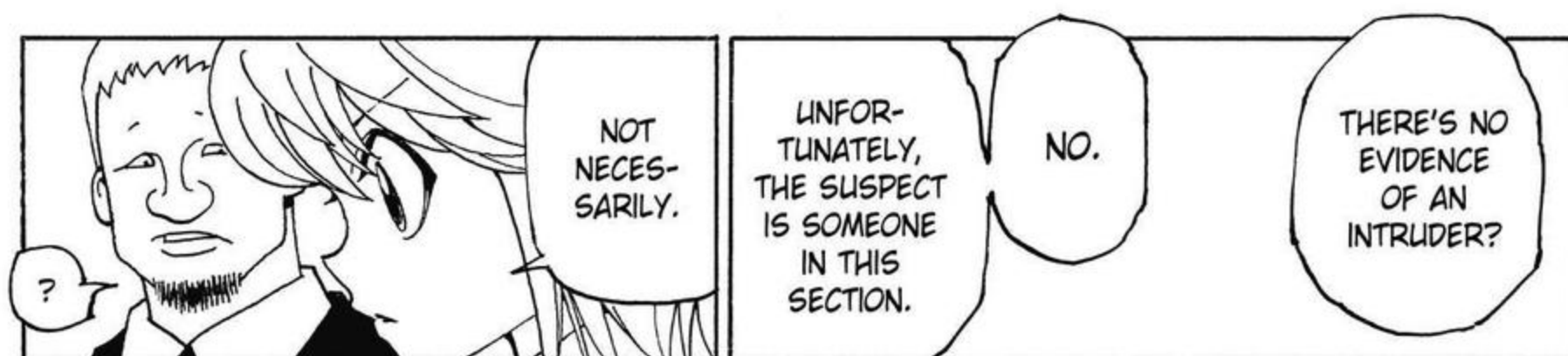
THREE IS
TOO MANY
TO BABYSIT
BEYOND, WHEN
HE HAS NO
MOTIVE TO
ESCAPE FOR
NOW.

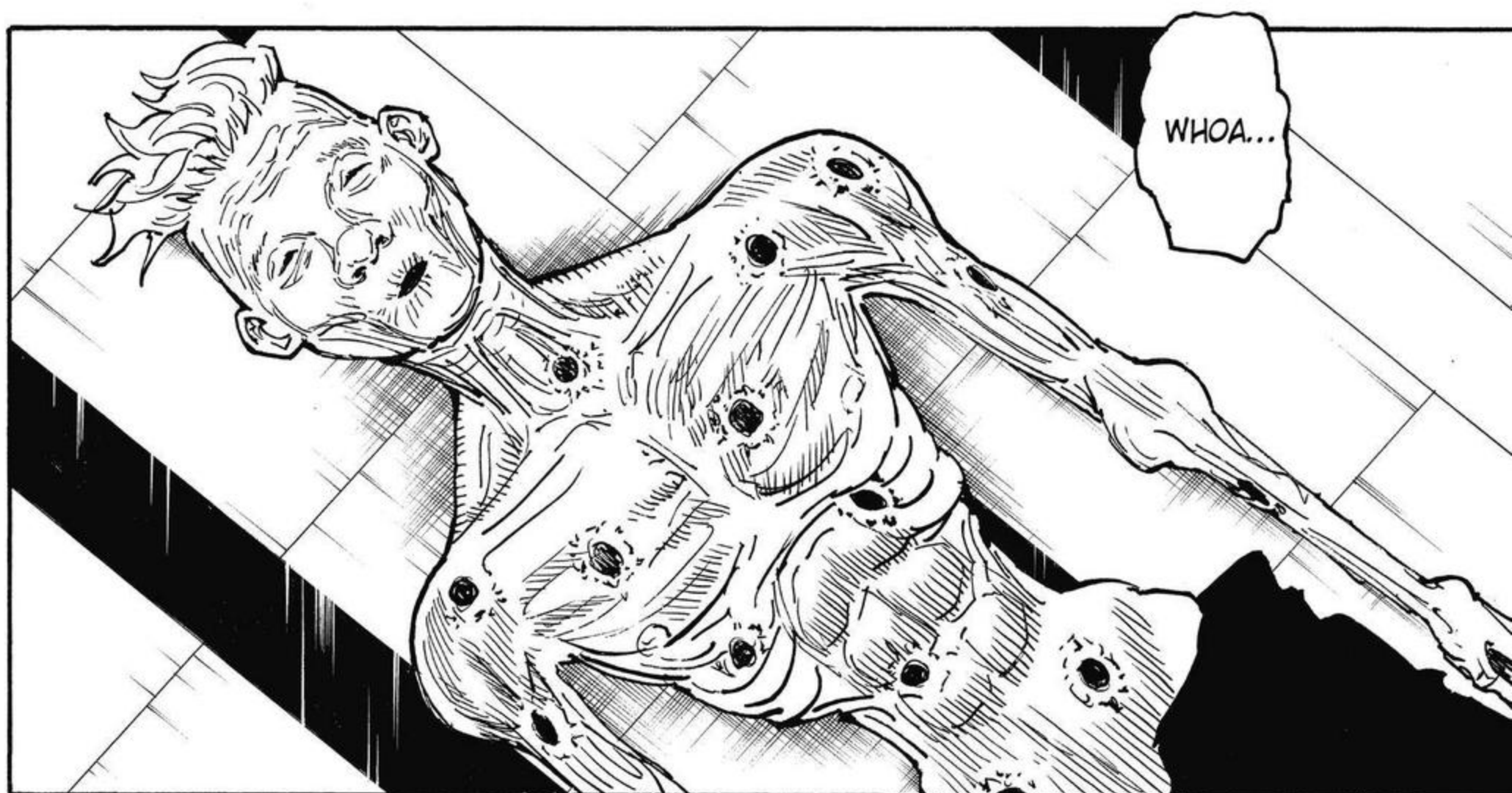
IT WOULD
BE GOOD TO
HAVE MULTIPLE
ZODIACS
ON TIERS 1
AND 2 FOR
EMERGENCIES...











"NEN"...?
IS THAT A
PSYCHIC
POWER?



IT'S LIKELY
THIS WAS
DONE BY AN
OUTSIDER
WITH NEN
ABILITIES.



I WANT
EVERYONE
TO ANSWER
HONESTLY.

IT'S
REASONABLE
TO ASSUME
THIS WAS A
NEN ATTACK.

I CAN UNDERSTAND
THE ROYAL GUARDS FEIGNING
IGNORANCE, BUT I DON'T
UNDERSTAND THE HUNTERS....!
IF THEY WOULD JUST
TAKE THE INITIATIVE AND SHOW
A COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE,
THE ROYALS WOULD ACT
DIFFERENTLY...



THINGS ARE
WORSE THAN
I THOUGHT...
IT'S TOO
RISKY TO USE
MY CHAIN
RIGHT HERE.



WHY
DIDN'T
YOU COME
FOR-
WARD?



HAND THE
BODY OVER
TO THE
ARMY.

FROM
NOW ON,
ALWAYS
BE IN A
GROUP.

IT'S ALMOST
TIME TO FETCH
THE TWO
FROM THE
CEREMONIAL
HALL.



WHAT?

WHY DID YOU
EVEN BRING
UP THE TOPIC
OF NEN?

I'D
LIKE TO
ASK...



WE
CAN'T GET
THROUGH
THIS
WITHOUT
ADAPTA-
BILITY.

NEN IS
THE BIGGEST
SECRET OF THE
ASSOCIATION, BUT
YOU CAN SEE HOW
THIS SITUATION
SUPERSEDES
THAT.



THIS IS THE
KAKIN ARMY'S
INTERNAL
CONFLICT,
RIGHT?

OUR MISSION
IS LIMITED TO
PROTECTING THE
QUEEN AND
THE PRINCE.



IT WOULD
BE DECLARING
OUR INTENT
TO INTERFERE
WITH THEIR
INFIGHTING.

IF SOMEONE IN
THE MILITARY
COULD USE
NEN, STEPPING
FORWARD
WOULD HAVE
THE OPPOSITE
EFFECT.



DON'T
TELL
ME...



THEY DON'T
KNOW...
ABOUT THE
SUCCESSION
BATTLE...!!

FOCUS ON
OUR OWN
MISSION, AND
THEY WON'T
BOTHER US.



WE WERE
EXEMPT.

THE
INTERVIEW?

THEN
DIDN'T YOU
SEE THE
QUEEN?



HM? OF
COURSE.



DIDN'T
YOU APPLY...
FROM THE
KAKIN OFFICIAL
WEBSITE?



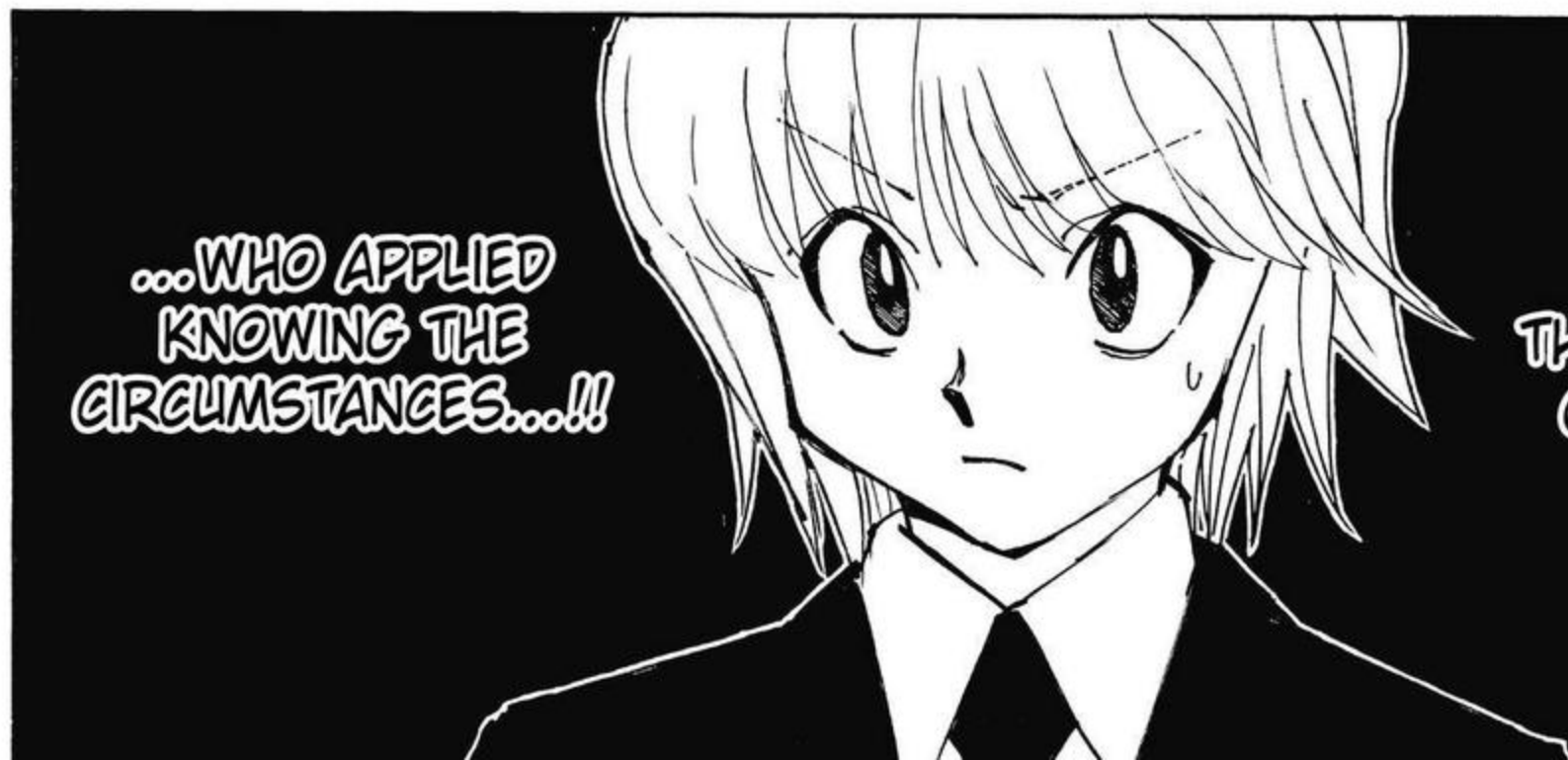
THEY WENT
THROUGH
PARISTON...
HE DIDN'T
TELL THEM
ABOUT THE
SUCCESSION
BATTLE...
OR PARISTON
DOESN'T
KNOW.



WE KNOW MORE
ABOUT THE ROYAL
FAMILY, THE MILITARY,
AND THEIR SITUATION
THAN YOU! THE
QUEEN SEEMS TO
LIKE YOU, BUT *TRY* TO
BE MORE DISCREET.



UNLIKE YOU, WE
CONTACTED KAKIN
RIGHT AFTER THE
VOYAGE WAS
ANNOUNCED, AND
THE APPLICATION
WAS ONLY TO
FORMALIZE IT.

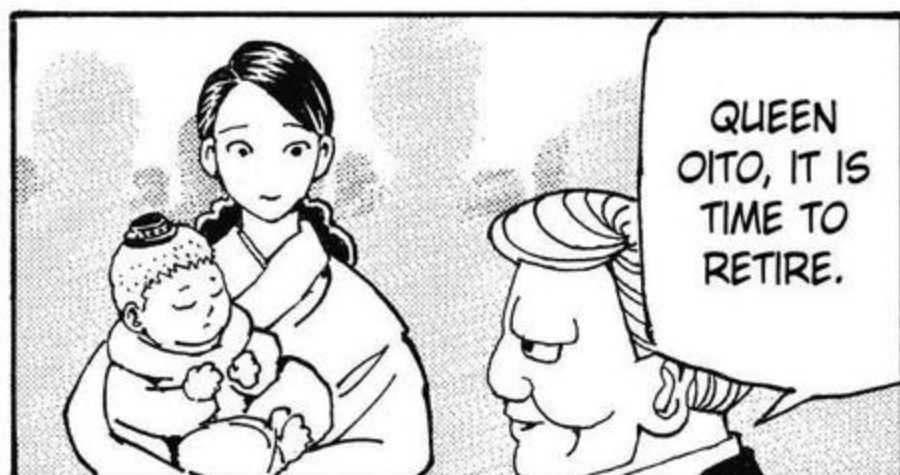


...WHO APPLIED
KNOWING THE
CIRCUMSTANCES...!!

I'M
THE ONLY
ONE...



TIER 1, CEREMONIAL HALL



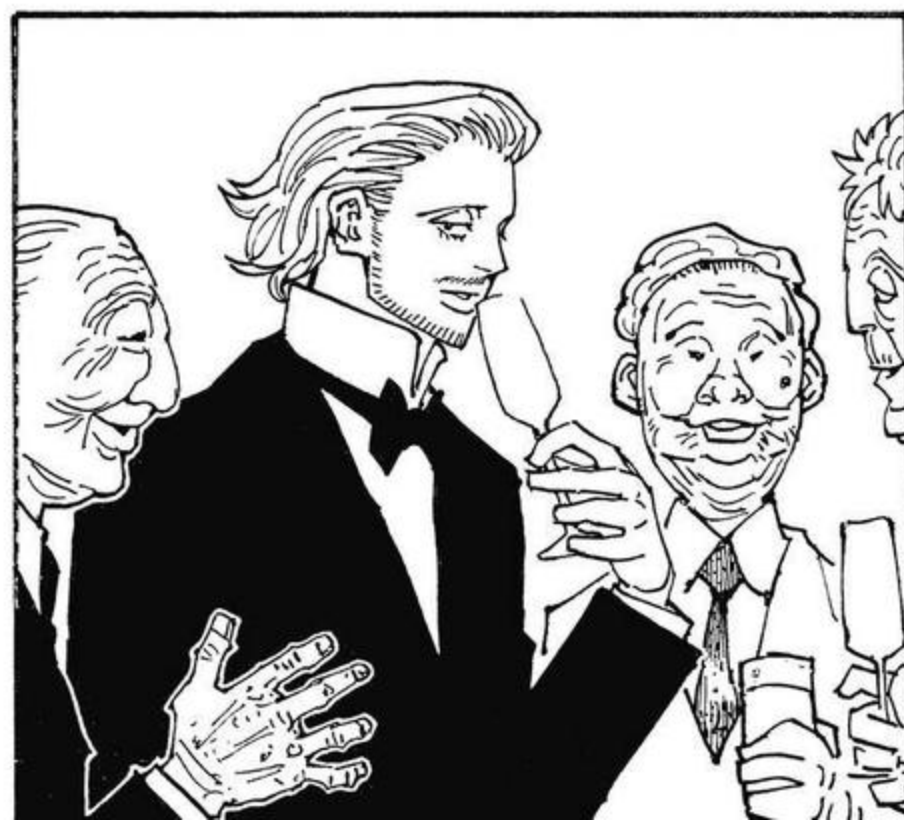
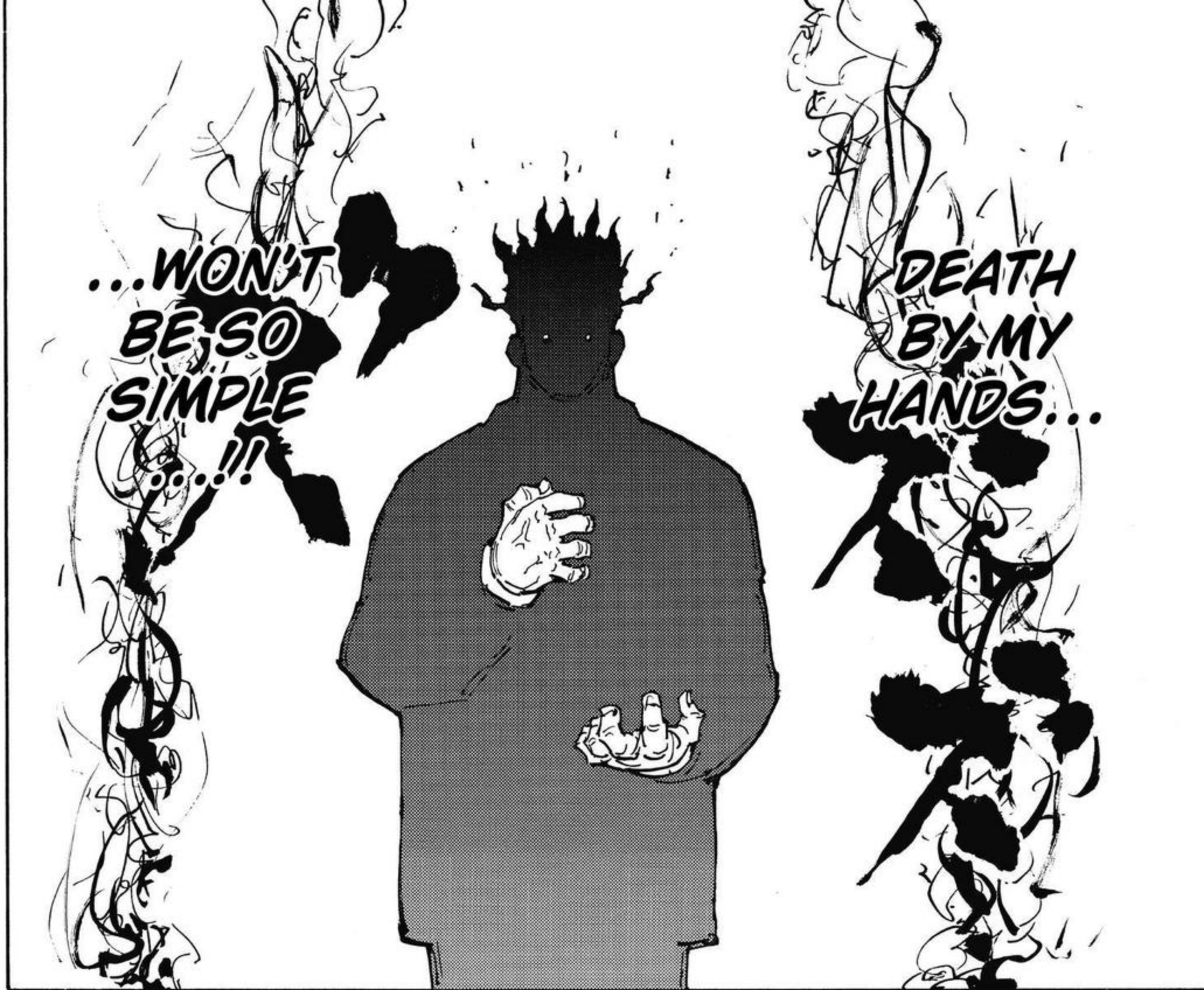
IF YOU END
UP KILLED
BY ANOTHER
PRINCE...
CONSIDER
YOURSELVES
LUCKY!!

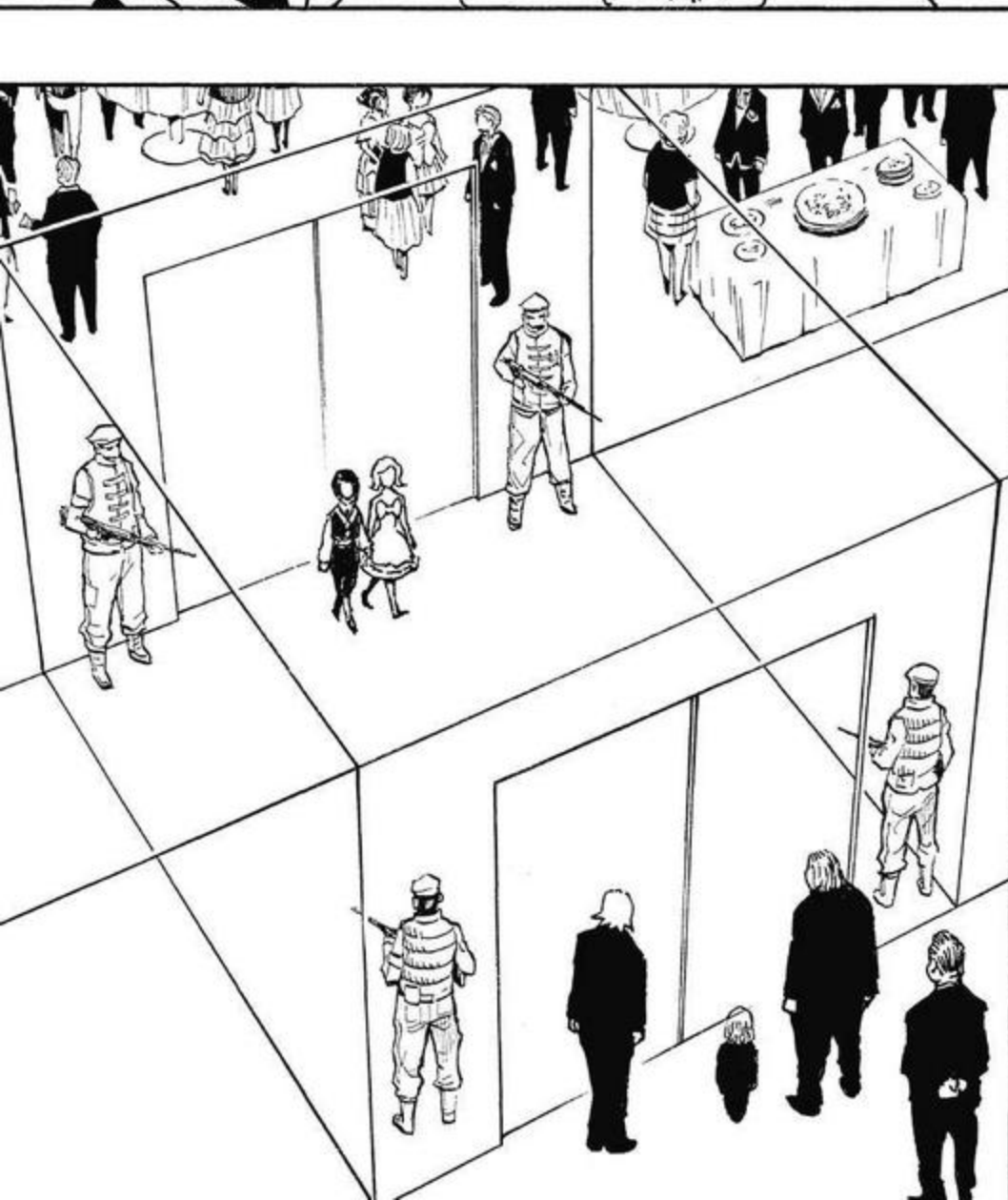
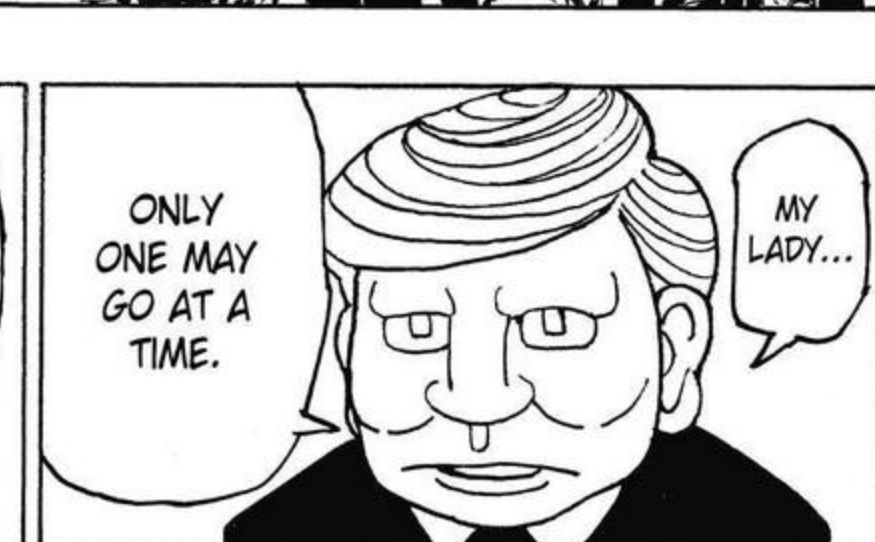
THEY
MUST
BE
PUT
TO
DEATH
!!!

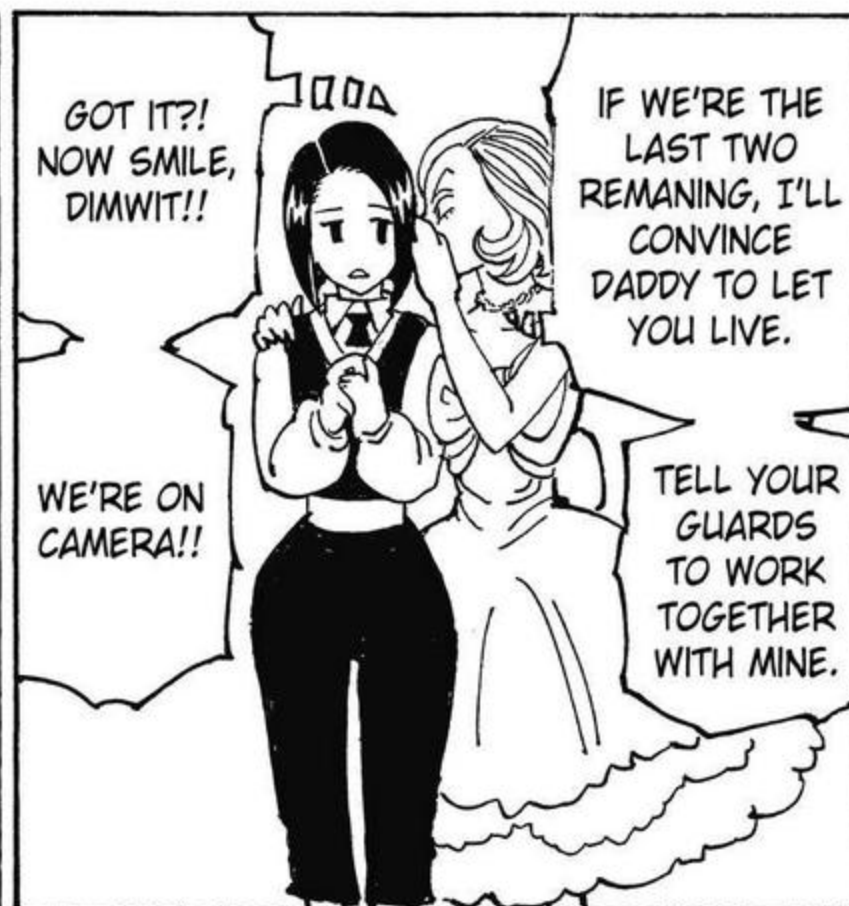
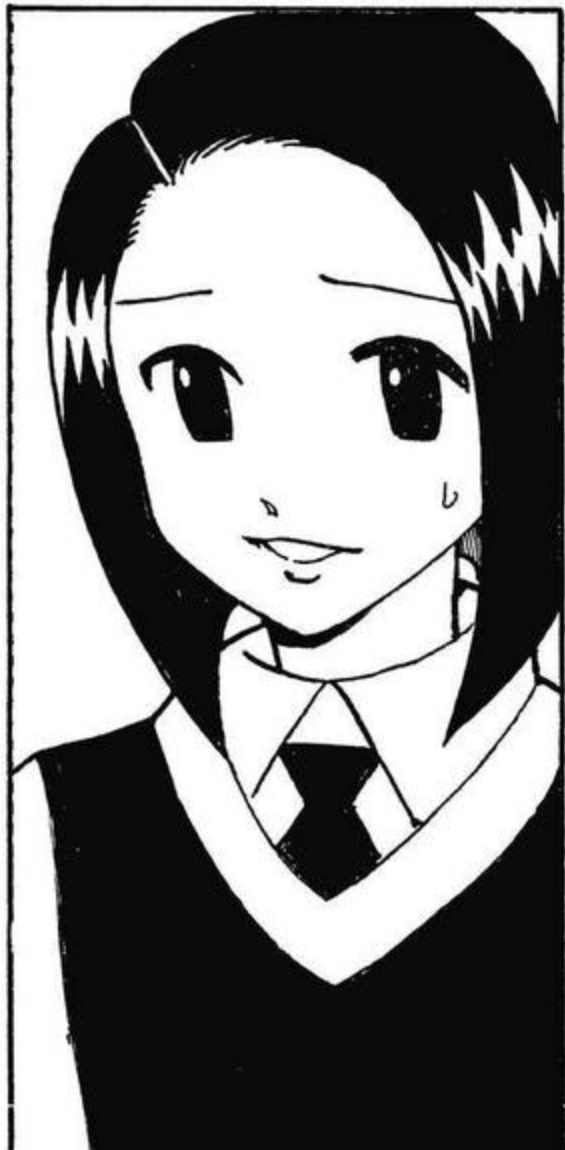
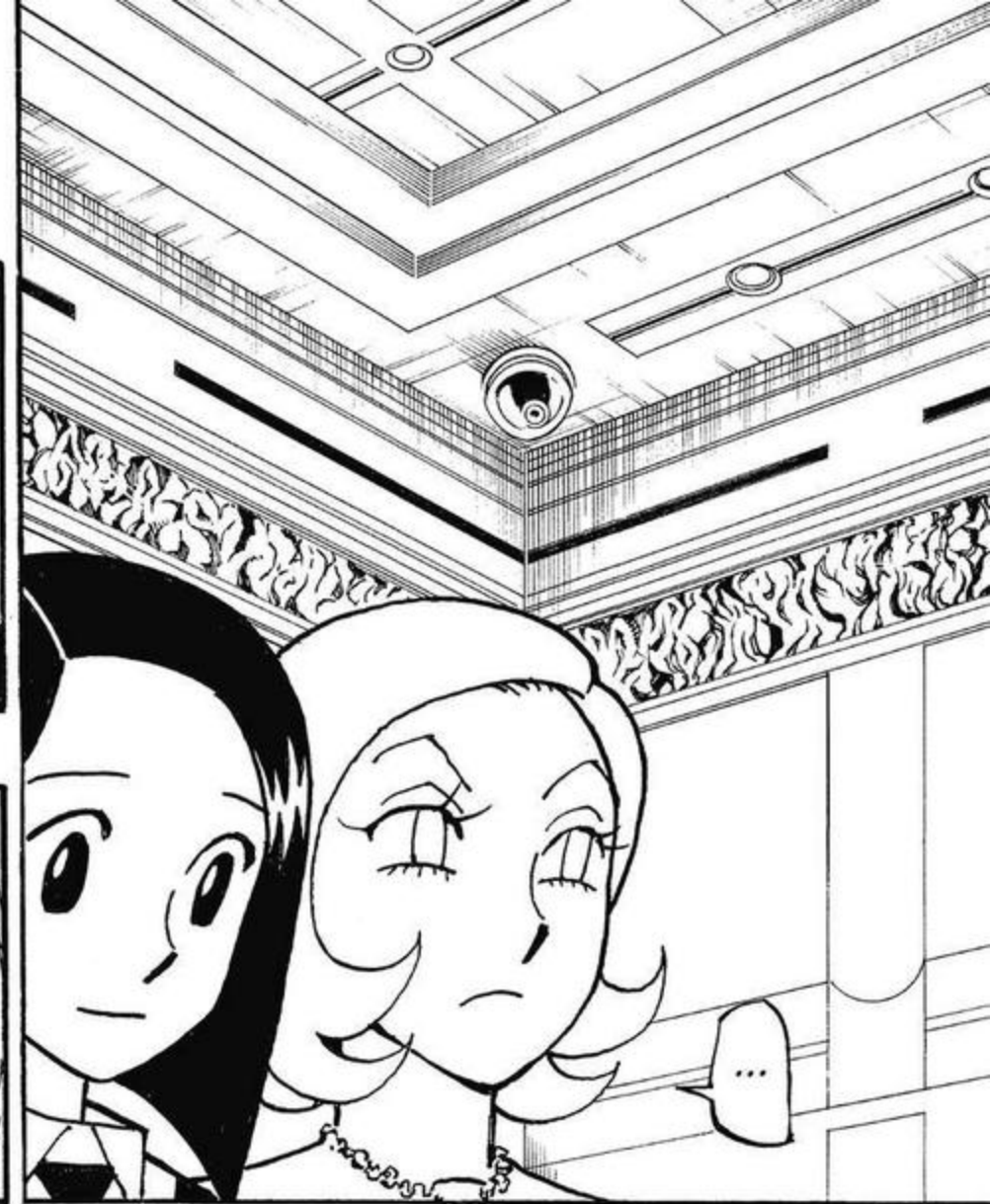
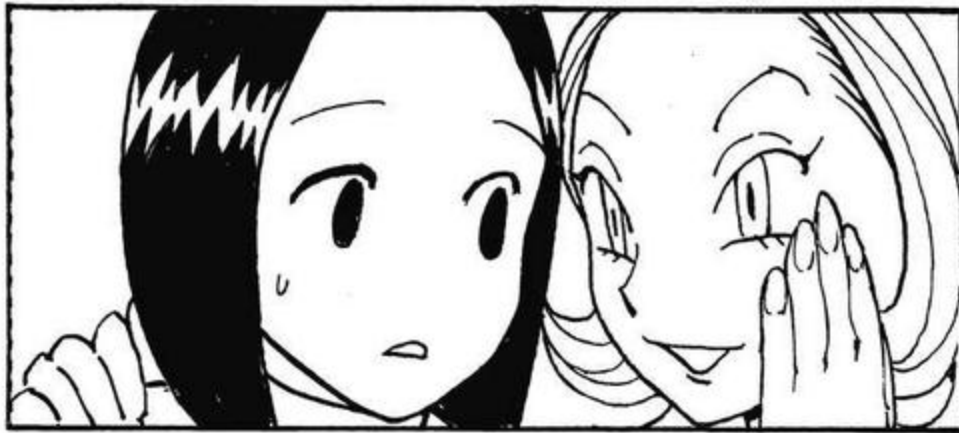
WE MAY
HAVE BEEN
MONITORED BY
THE KING AND
THE ROYAL
ARMY...

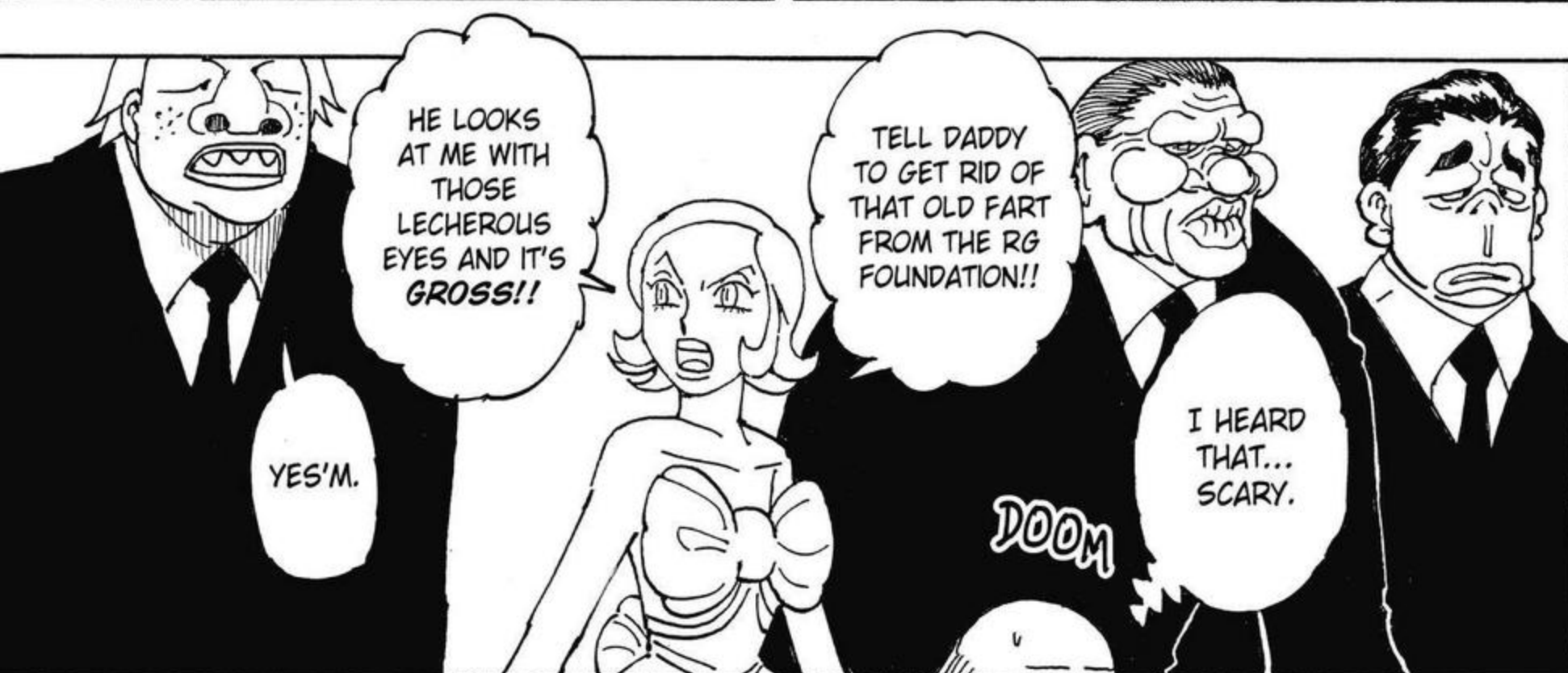
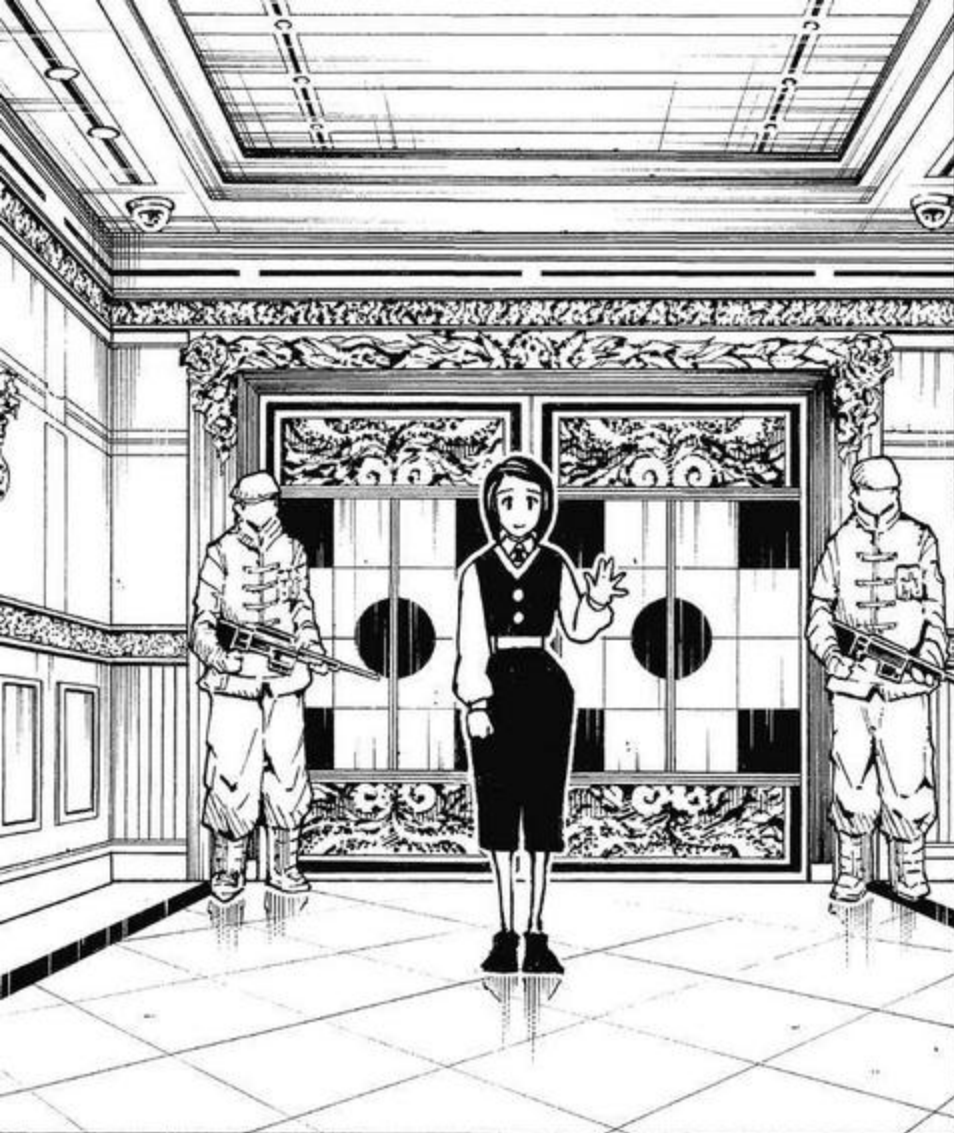
EVERYONE
WAS HERE
FOR THE
CEREMONY...
SO IT'LL BE
A 14-WAY
BATTLE
ROYALE.

BUT IT'S AN
ACT OF FOLLY
TO REACH PAST
ME, THE FIRST
PRINCE, FOR
THE CROWN!!





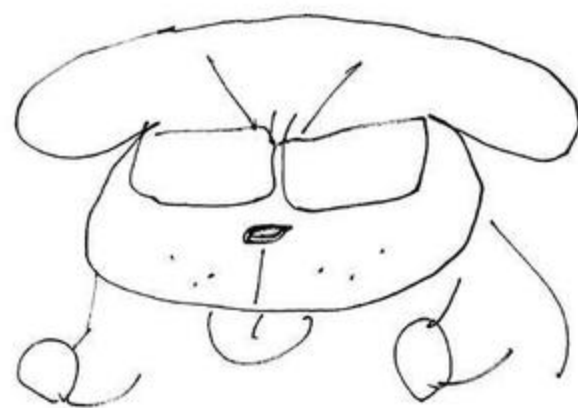








I DEBATED WHETHER
IT SHOULD BE "MOON
AND SUN" OR "SUN AND
MOON." I SHOUTED IT IN
MY MIND, AND DECIDED
"SUN AND MOON"
SOUNDED BETTER.



Chapter 360: Parasite



I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!! THAT'S JUST NOT NORMAL!!

THE PRINCES, KILLING EACH OTHER ...?!

WHAT PROOF DO WE HAVE THAT YOUR CHAIN IS FOR REAL?!

...

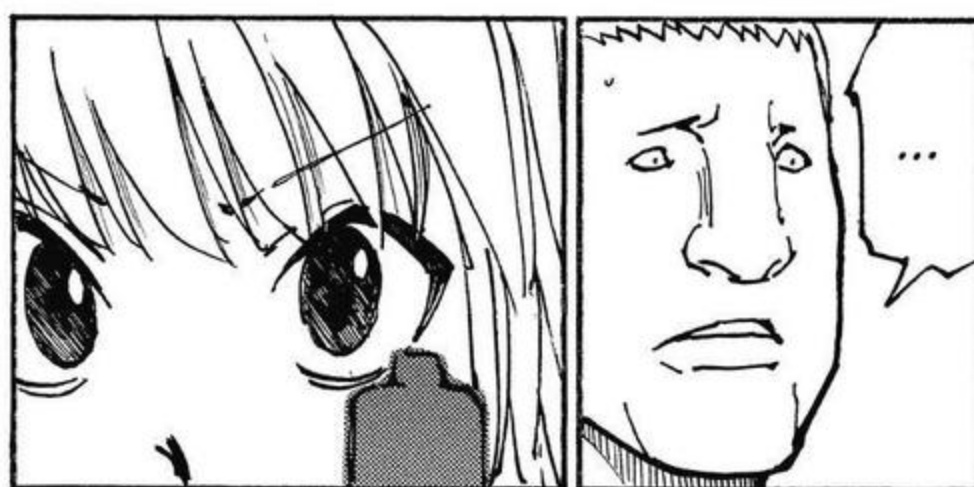
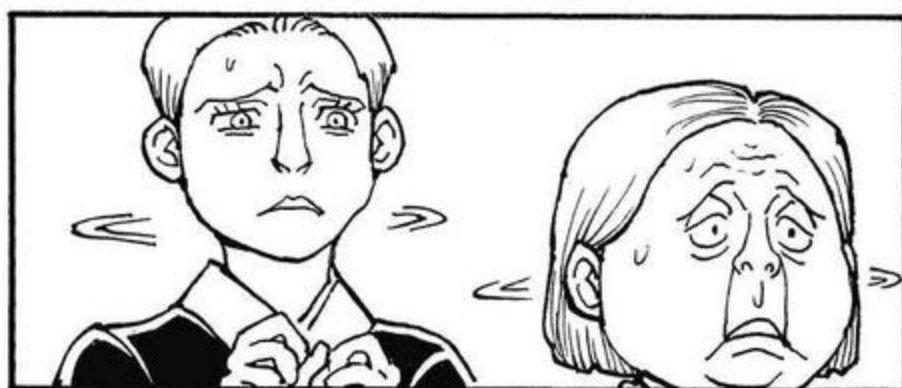
WHY WOULD THE ROYAL ARMY DISPOSE OF THE BODIES WITHOUT AUTOPSIES?

IT'S A FACT.

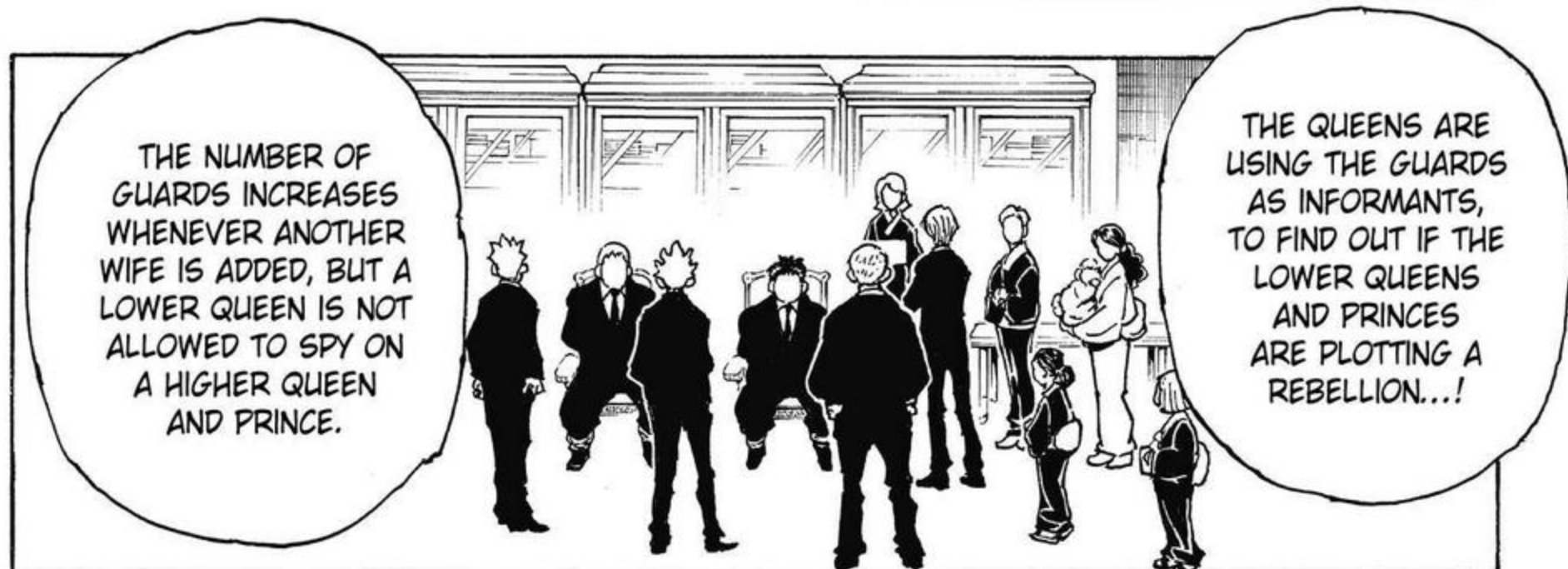
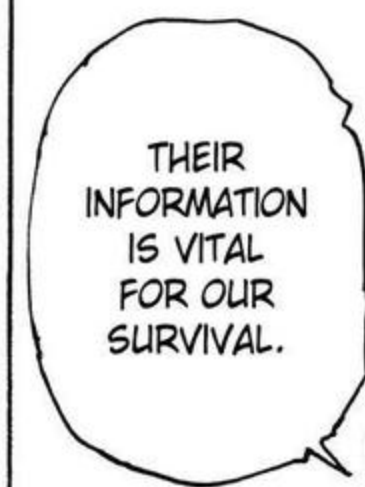
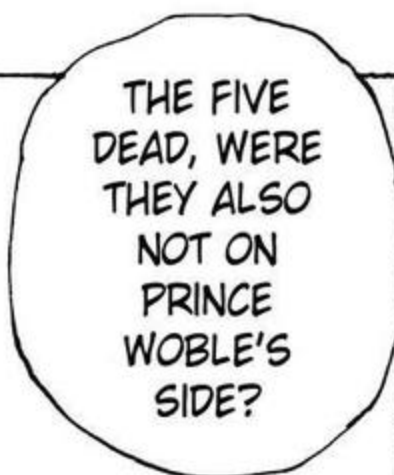
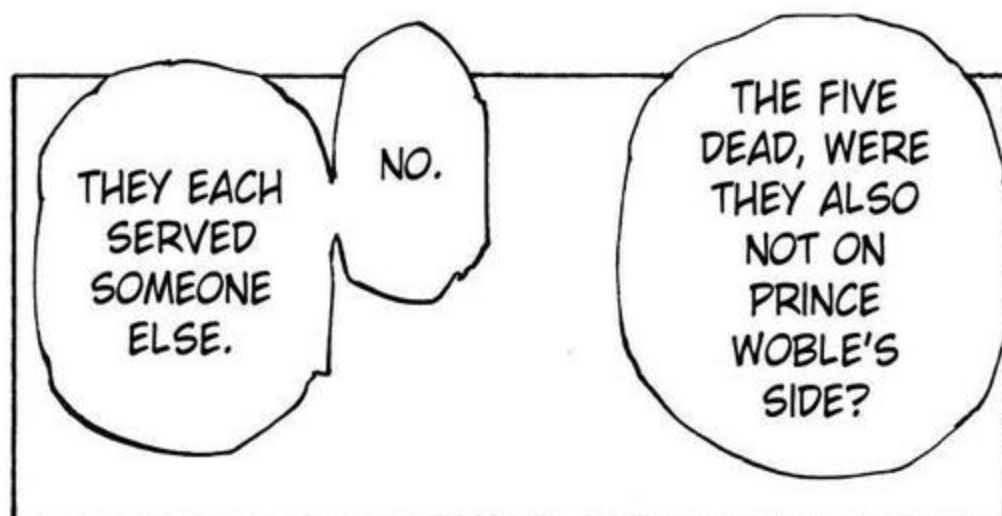


URK ...

TRY ME.







QUEEN OITO,
THE LOWEST,
HASN'T EVEN
HAD THE SYSTEM
EXPLAINED TO
HER YET.

ELEVENTH
PRINCE FUGETSU



TWELFTH
PRINCE MOMOZE



FOURTEENTH
PRINCE WOBLE

TWO GUARDS CHOSEN
BY QUEEN SEIKO
FIVE GUARDS
(SPIES CHOSEN BY QUEENS UNMA
THROUGH SWINKO)

ONE GUARD CHOSEN
BY QUEEN SEVANTI
SIX GUARDS
(SPIES CHOSEN BY QUEENS UNMA
THROUGH SEIKO)

SEVEN GUARDS
(SPIES CHOSEN BY QUEENS UNMA
THROUGH SEVANTI)

SO A LOWER
QUEEN GETS A
TRUE GUARD
ONLY WHEN
THERE IS A NEW
QUEEN LOWER IN
RANK THAN SHE.

NOW
THE VERY
EXISTENCE
OF THE OTHER
PRINCES IS A
THREAT...!

GET IT?! THE
SUCCESSION
BATTLE
CHANGED
EVERYTHING!

AS LONG AS
IT DOESN'T
THREATEN THE
SAFETY OF OUR
CLIENT AND
HER PRINCE.

OUR JOB
IS IN FACT
TO PROTECT
PRINCE
WOBLE...

THE
SUCCESSION
BATTLE
DOESN'T MEAN
THE LAWS
GO OUT THE
WINDOW.

NO, NO!!
EVEN THE
QUEEN WOULD
BE THROWN INTO
PRISON IF SHE
ISSUED SUCH
AN ORDER.

DID YOUR
CLIENT ORDER
YOU TO
ASSASSINATE
PRINCE
WOBLE?

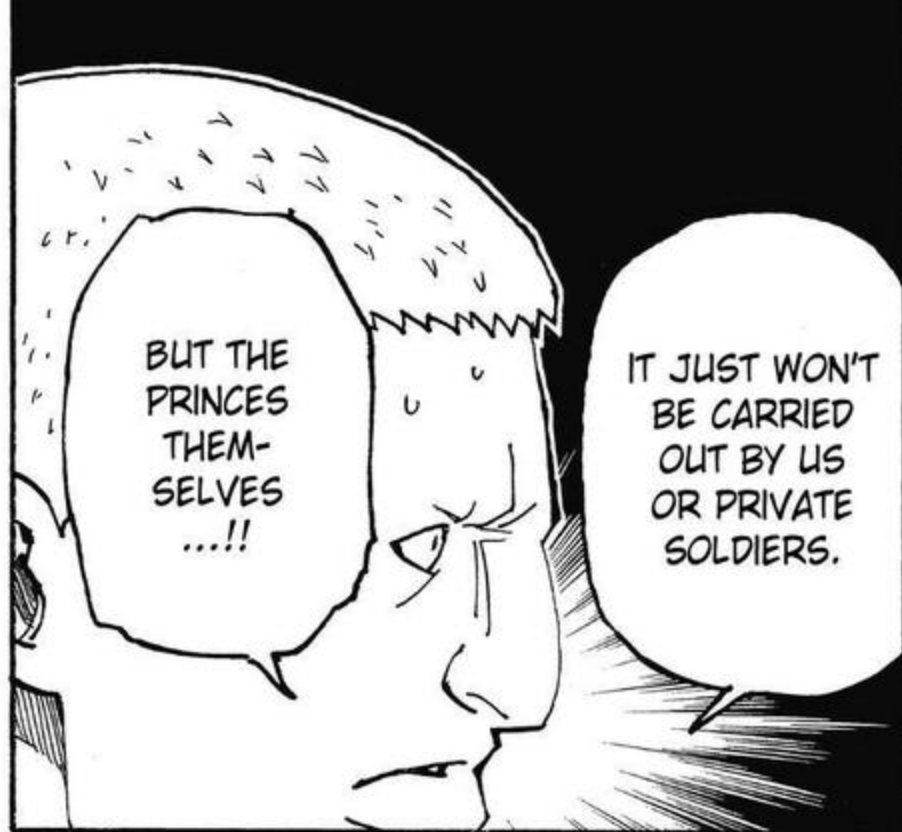
THAT THE POINT
WAS FOR THE
PRINCES TO COME
TO UNDERSTAND
THE DIFFICULTIES
AND RISKS OF
ACTUALLY PLOTTING
ASSASSINATIONS.

WE THOUGHT
THIS WAS A
DRASTIC MEASURE
TAKEN TO MOLLIFY
THE VICIOUS
RELATIONSHIPS
BETWEEN THE
QUEENS AND
PRINCES...

THAT'S WHY
WE WERE
DOUBTFUL—
UNTIL
SOMEONE
DIED.

THERE
WON'T BE ANY
ACQUITTAL OR
PARDON FOR
MURDERING
A PRINCE.

?!
DIDN'T
THE KING
ALLOW ALL
THIS?



BUT THE PRINCES THEMSELVES ...!!

IT JUST WON'T BE CARRIED OUT BY US OR PRIVATE SOLDIERS.



BUT SEEING THAT BODY AND HEARING ABOUT NEN...

THAT'S HOW SERIOUS A CRIME IT WOULD BE... WE THOUGHT IT WAS UNREALISTIC.

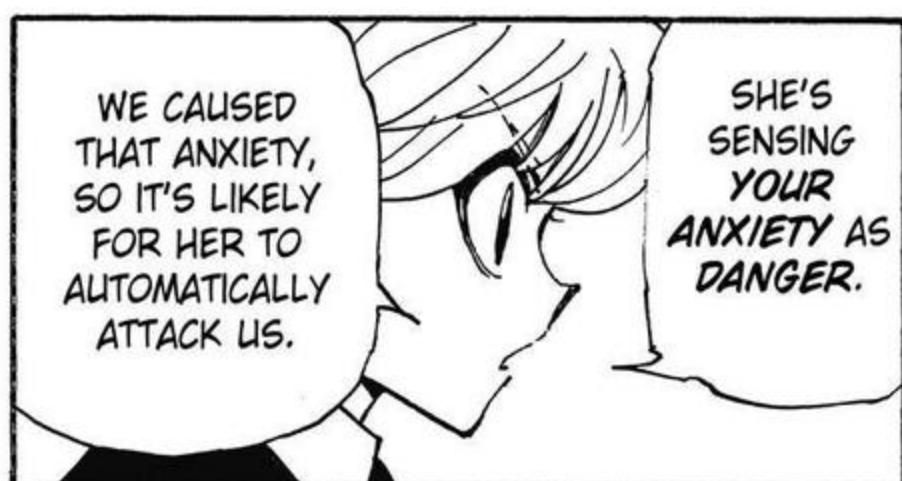
NOW WE **KNOW** THE BATTLE HAS BEGUN.



THAT MUST'VE BEEN THE CEREMONY TO BESTOW NEN ABILITIES.

DIDN'T SHE TAKE THE SEED URN CEREMONY?

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ...?!

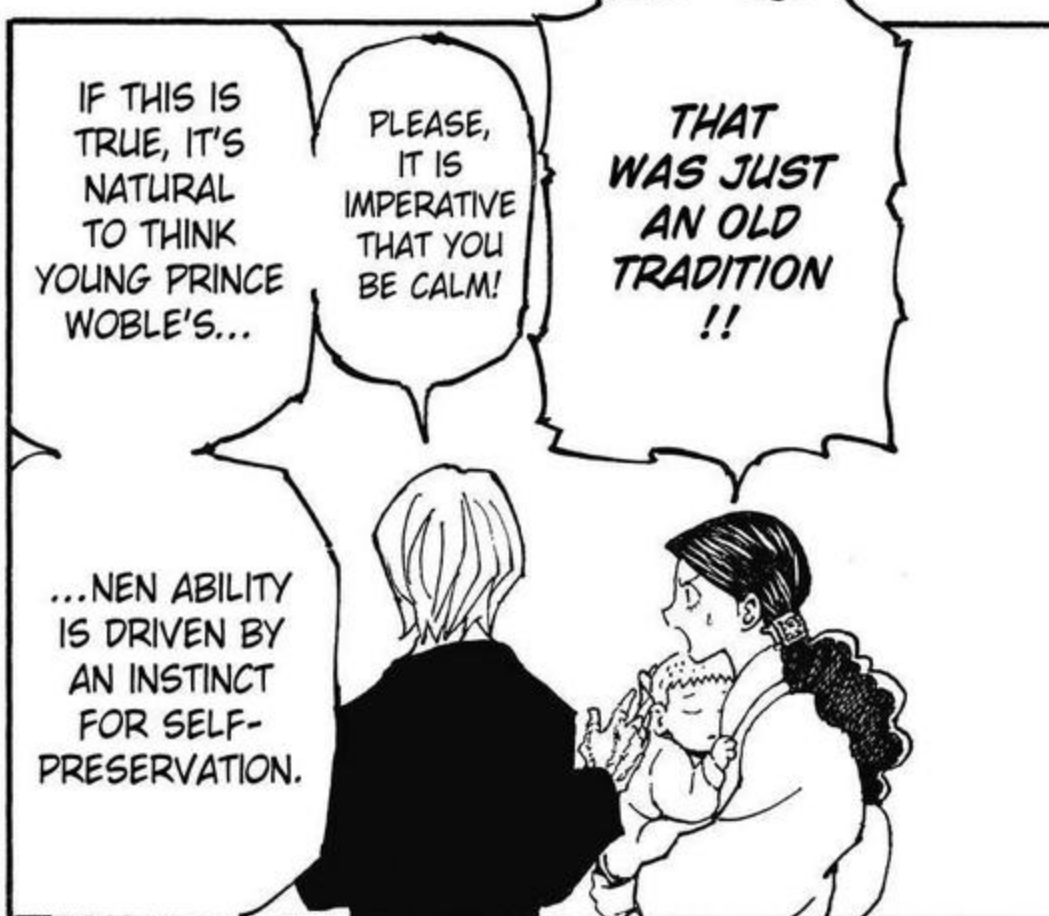


WE CAUSED THAT ANXIETY, SO IT'S LIKELY FOR HER TO AUTOMATICALLY ATTACK US.

SHE'S SENSING **YOUR ANXIETY** AS DANGER.



YOU MUST CALM DOWN AS MUCH AS YOU CAN.



IF THIS IS TRUE, IT'S NATURAL TO THINK YOUNG PRINCE WOBLE'S...

PLEASE, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU BE CALM!

THAT WAS JUST AN OLD TRADITION !!

...NEN ABILITY IS DRIVEN BY AN INSTINCT FOR SELF-PRESERVATION.

OR IT COULD'VE BEEN ANOTHER PRINCE, TARGETING THE YOUNGEST AND WEAKEST PRINCE BY DESTROYING HER INNER CIRCLE.

IT COULD BE THAT PRINCE WOBLE DID IT IN SELF-DEFENSE, SENSING A GUARD'S DECISION TO TAKE MATTERS INTO HIS OWN HANDS.

THAT'S THE MOST PLAUSIBLE THEORY WE HAVE, BUT WE STILL CAN'T DETERMINE IF THE ATTACKER IS A FRIEND OR FOE.

A LITTLE OVER A MONTH AGO.

UM...

WHEN WAS THIS CEREMONY?

NEN IS USUALLY ACQUIRED OVER A LONG TIME.

QUESTIONS REMAIN REGARDING HER MASTERY PROCESS.

WELL... IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE IF IT'S PARASITIC.

THIS CAN'T BE DONE BY SOMEONE WHO *JUST* LEARNED NEN.

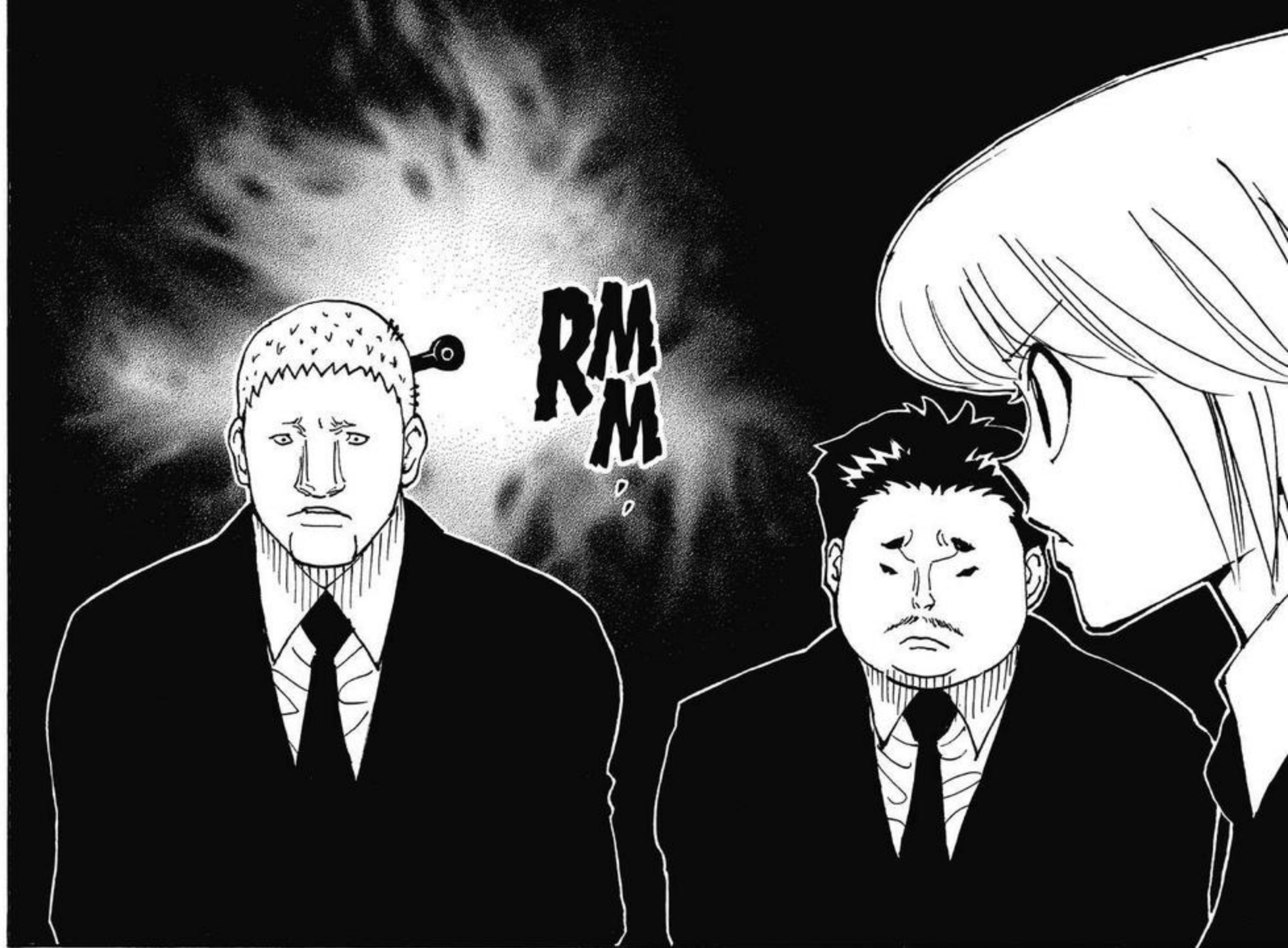
TRUE, IT HASN'T BEEN LONG ENOUGH FOR THAT THEORY TO WORK.

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RM
RM

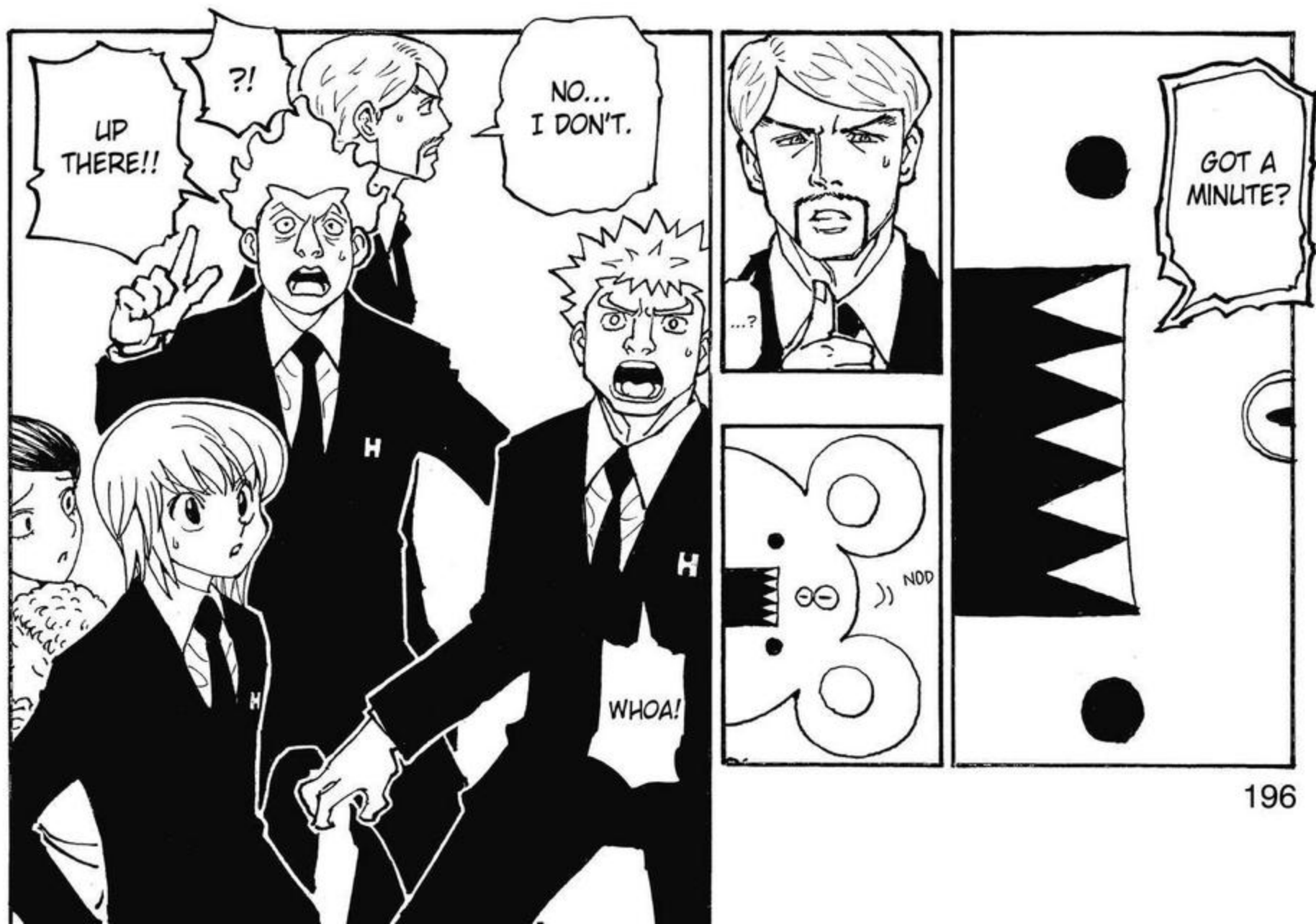
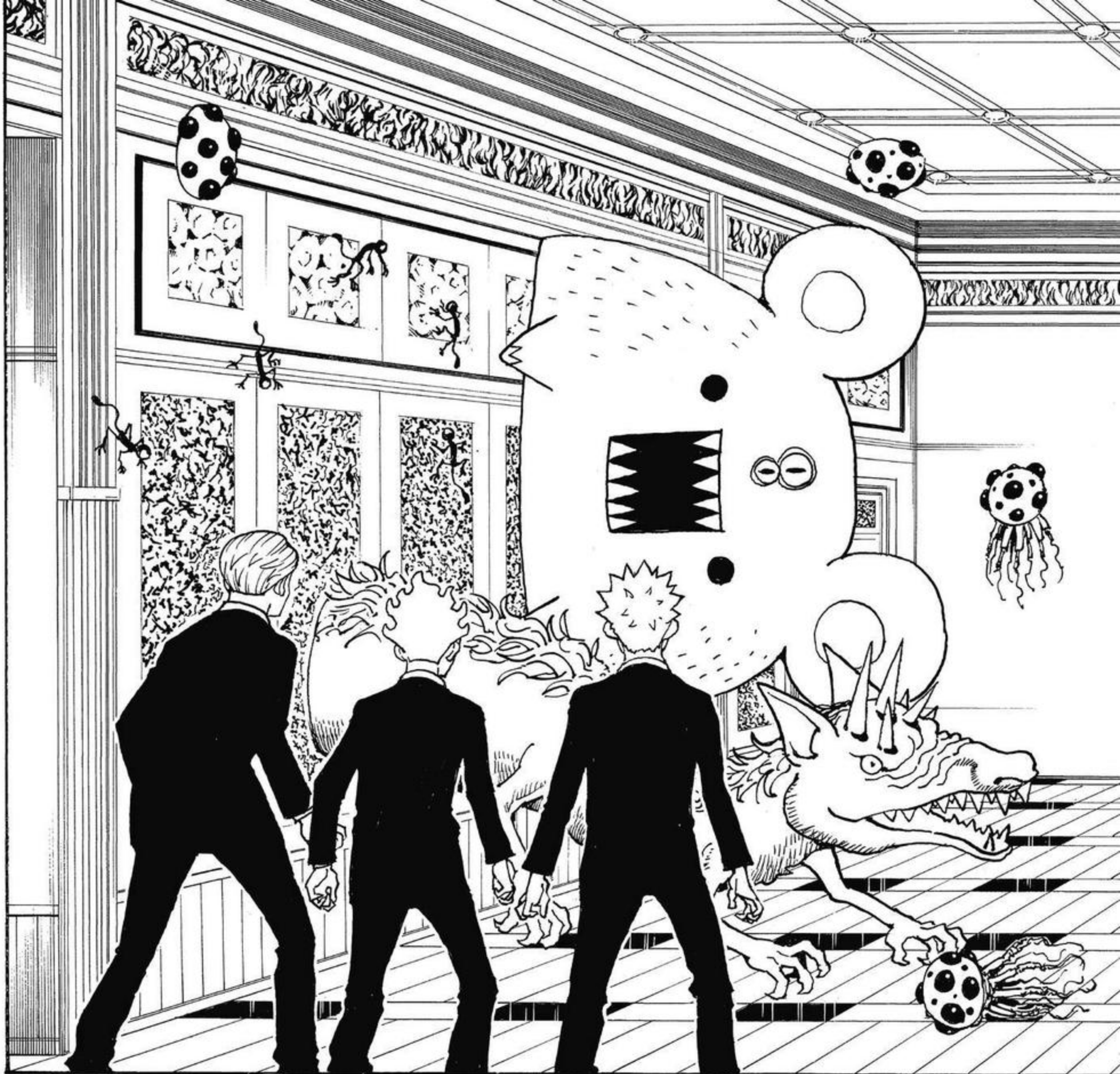
THAT WOULD EXPLAIN THE CEREMONY.

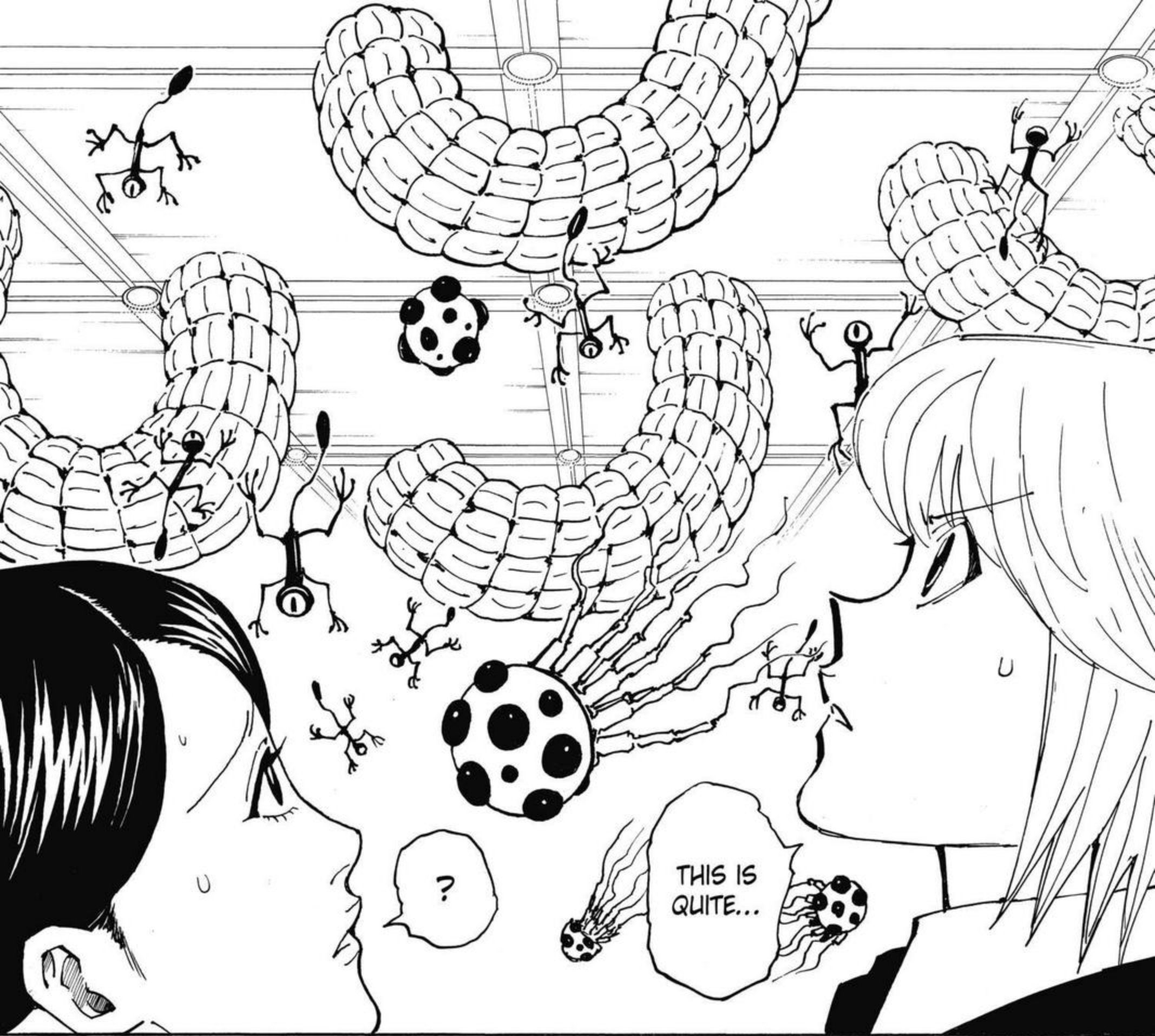
YEAH.

PARASITIC ...?





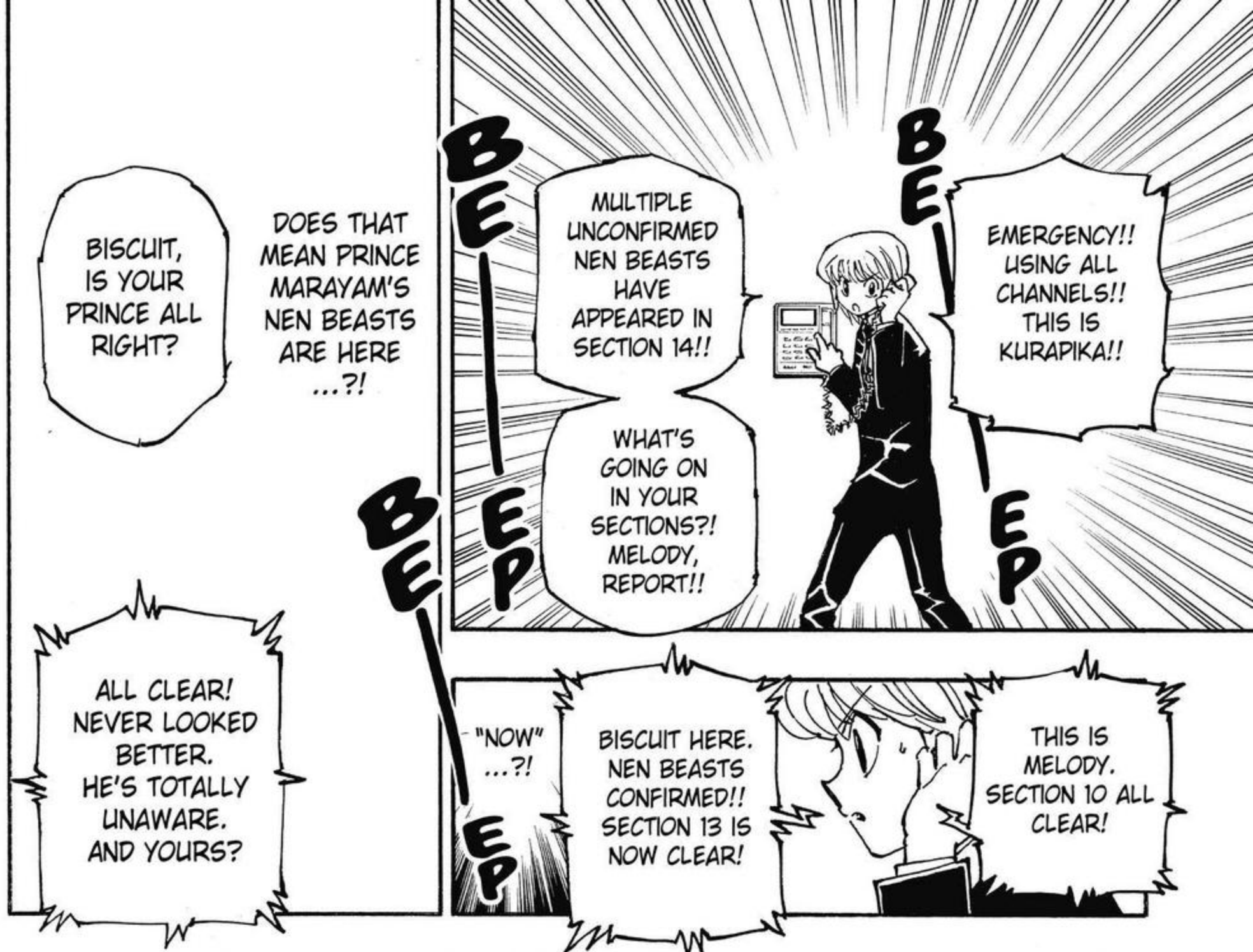


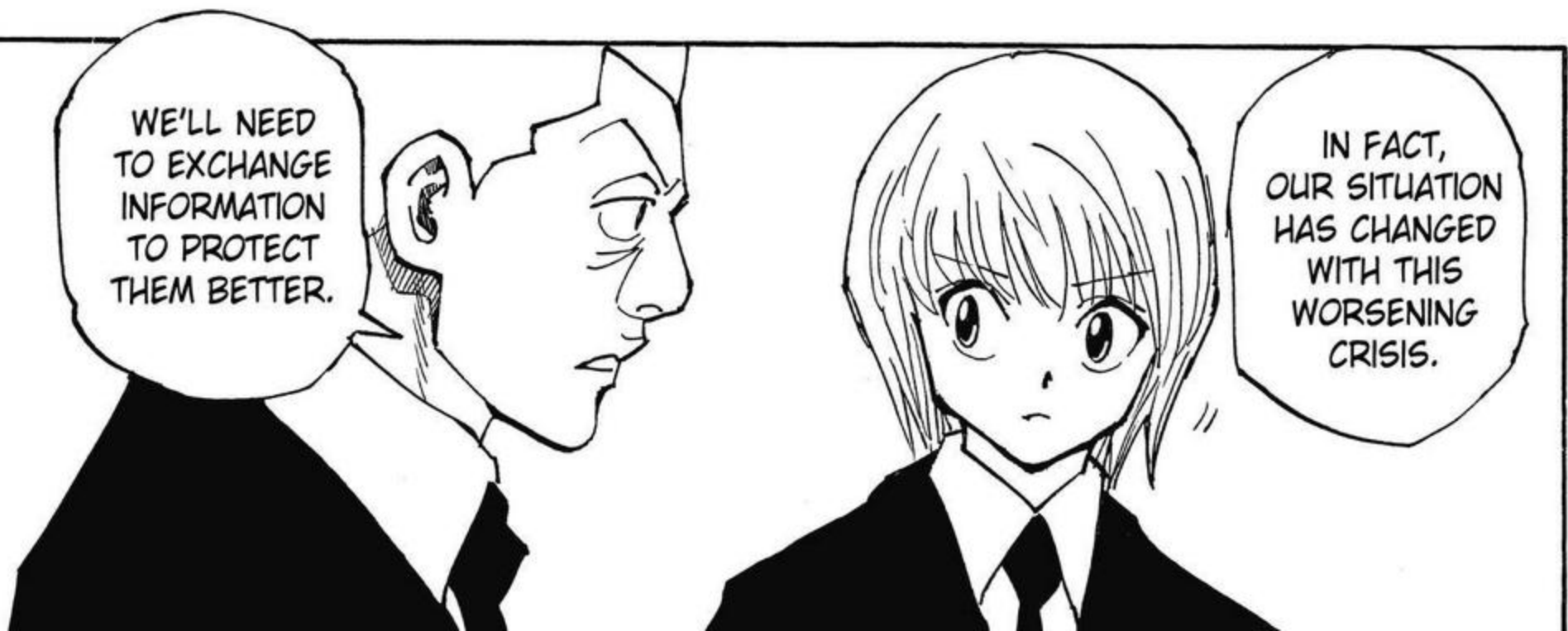
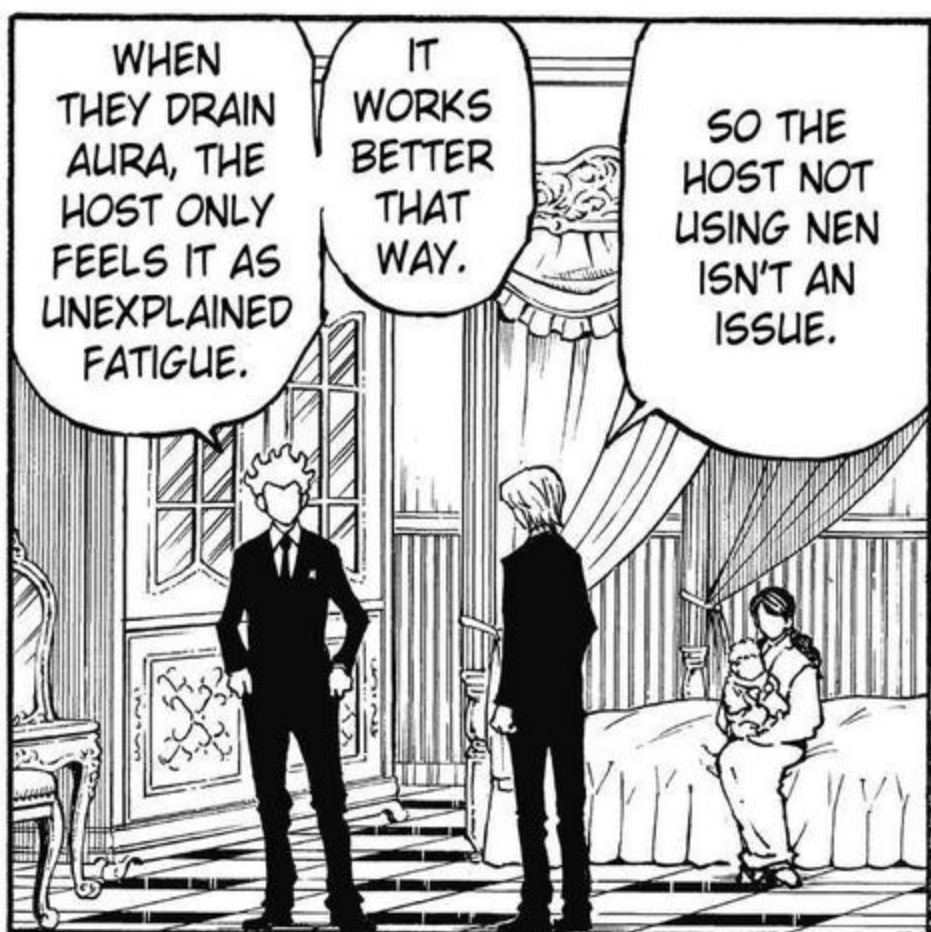
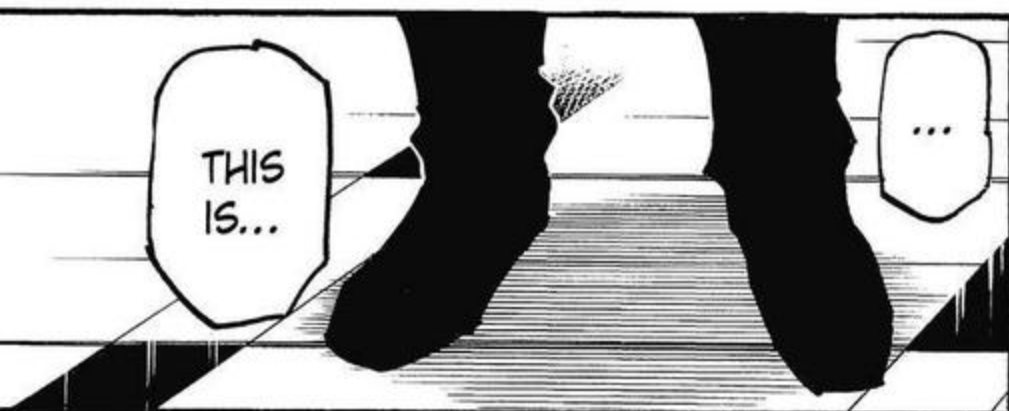
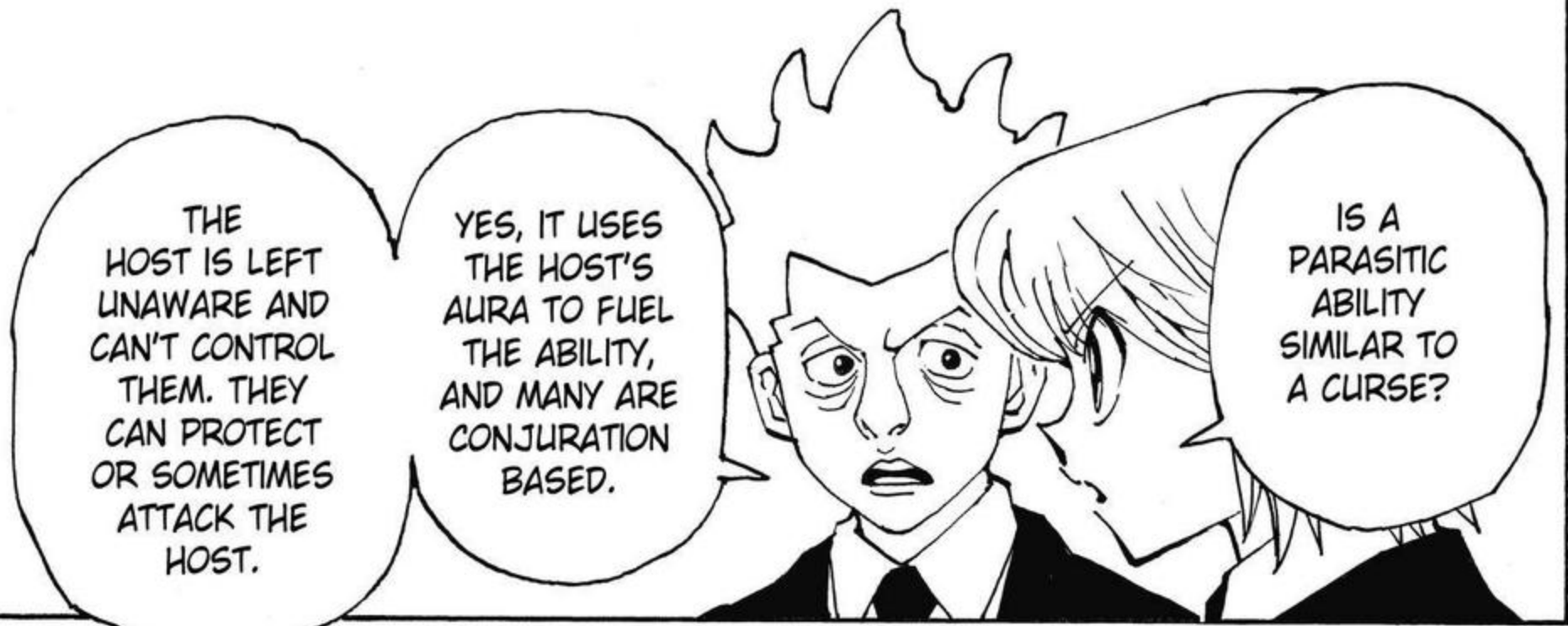


**SO
THESE
ARE
THE
WORM
TOXINS**

**THE
SEED
URN
CERE-
MONY**











SAFETY IS
MY UTMOST
CONCERN,
OF COURSE.

I
HAVE THE
QUEEN'S
CONSENT.



APPROACHING
FOURTH PRINCE
TSEERRIEDNICH
IS DANGEROUS
AND CLEARLY
INCOMPATIBLE
WITH THIS
MISSION.

YOUR
SITUATION IS
PROBLEMATIC.



WHAT DOES
"SAFETY"
MEAN TO
YOU?

THEN I
ASK...

THEIR SAFETY
MUST BE THE
PRIORITY!



THAT WON'T HELP
TO ESTABLISH
TRUST WITH YOU.
I'D HAVE TO
REFUSE TO FORM
A TEAM WITH
YOU.



...CAN
MAKE THAT
POSSIBLE.

WE...



ISN'T THEIR
TRUE "SAFETY"
TO WHOLLY
ESCAPE FROM
THE THREATS
OF THE
SUCCESSION
BATTLE?

IF IT'S ONLY
TO GUARANTEE
SAFETY WHILE ON
BOARD, PER YOUR
CONTRACT, YOUR
UNDERSTANDING
IS TOO NARROW.

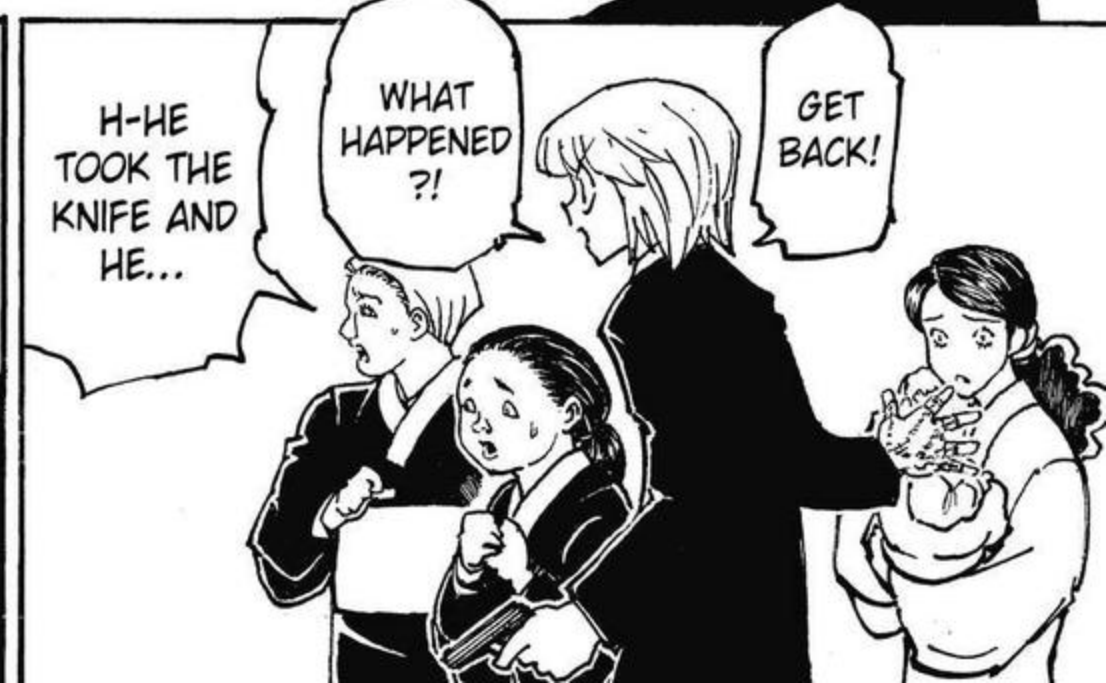
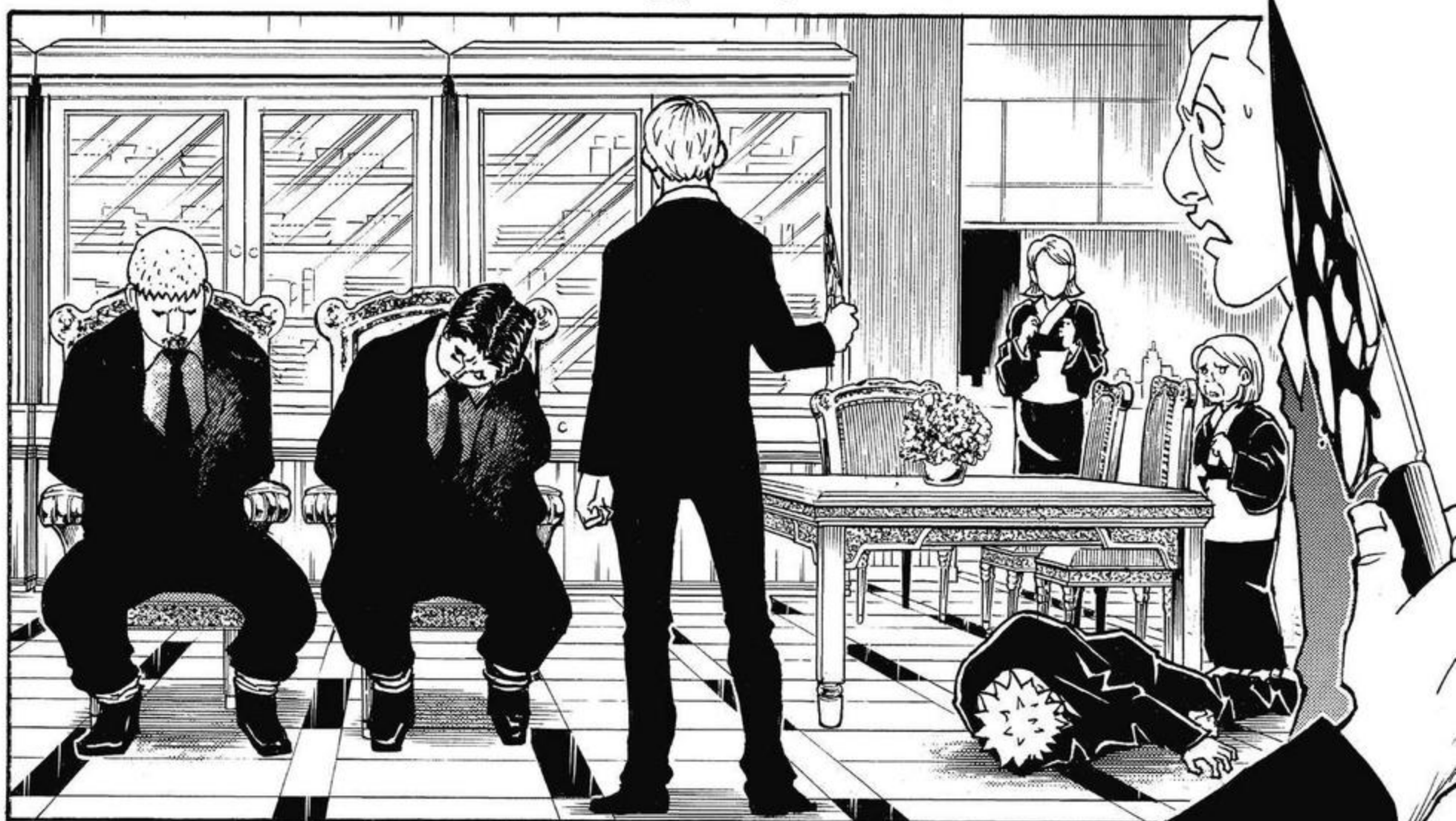


YOUR
MAJESTY,
PLEASE
CONSIDER
THAT THERE
ARE MANY
OPTIONS.

THERE ARE
CURRENTLY
THREE
WAYS!



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VOL. 34: BATTLE TO THE DEATH: END.

WHAT I WANTED TO DO MOST WAS TO HAVE HIM KILL SOMEONE IN THE TROUPE. I KNEW HOW THE STORY WAS GOING TO WORK OUT, BUT I HADN'T DECIDED WHO HISOKA WOULD KILL AT THE END. HISOKA WANTED TO KILL MACHI THEN AND THERE, BUT I VETOED IT.

TO LEAD INTO THE VOYAGE ARC, I NEEDED A MESSENGER TO DELIVER THE NEWS TO THE OTHER TROUPE MEMBERS. HE KILLED KORTOPI AND SHALNARK AS PART OF HIS POST-MORTEM ANALYSIS OF HIS PERFORMANCE IN THE FIGHT, AS WELL AS FOR REVENGE, AND I ALSO WANTED TO SHOW HOW SERIOUS HISOKA WAS THROUGH HIS COLD AND CALCULATING JUDGMENT IN REDUCING CHROLLO'S ROSTER OF ABILITIES...IS MY EXCUSE AFTER THE FACT. IT WAS MY HUNCH THAT LETTING MACHI STICK AROUND WOULD MAKE IT MORE INTERESTING LATER ON.

THIS CAME UP IN MY JOINT INTERVIEW WITH KISHIMOTO, BUT I HAVE A BLUEPRINT IN MY HEAD WHEN I'M WRITING THE STORY, MEANING I CAN PUT EVERYTHING INTO WORDS, AND UPON ACTUALLY THINKING THINGS THROUGH, I OFTEN COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT FOLLOWING THE BLUEPRINT IS INDEED THE INTERESTING PATH. BUT WHEN THE DISTANT FUTURE IS STILL MURKY, WHO YOU CHOOSE TO SAVE OR LET GO RELIES SOLELY ON INTUITION. I HOPE I DON'T COME TO REGRET IT...

CHROLLO VS. HISOKA

A COMMENTARY

THERE WERE SEVERAL THINGS I WANTED TO DO WITH THIS BATTLE. FIRST AND FOREMOST, THE FIGHT ITSELF. I LOVE STORIES WHERE THE ENEMIES OF THE PROTAGONISTS FIGHT EACH OTHER. ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING ONES WAS WHEN TOSAMARU HIGH SCHOOL PLAYED BENKEI HIGH SCHOOL IN THE BASEBALL MANGA *DOKABEN*. I REALLY WANTED TO DO THAT KIND OF THING IN MY MANGA.

I TOOK CARE TO LET BOTH OF THEM SHOW THEIR MANHOOD AND ALSO PORTRAY A CLEAR, DECISIVE OUTCOME~WHILE FUN, A TOUGH THING TO DO.

THE OTHER THING I WANTED TO DO WAS HAVE SOMEONE SAY "I'LL WIN 100 PERCENT" AND THEN REALLY DO IT. THE GUY WHO SAYS SOMETHING LIKE THAT? GENERALLY LOSES. I REFERRED TO THE ATTITUDE ESPOUSED BY THE SWORDSMAN KOGAN IWAMOTO. *SHIGURUI* IS AWESOME!!

